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GERASIMOV ON MISSILE DEAL, SUMMIT CHANCES

AU271920 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 23 May 87 p 6

[Interview with Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Directorate and spokesman of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, by Dusan Rovensky: "It Depends on the Political Will" -- date and place not given]

[Text] Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Administration and spokesman of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, has been in Czechoslovakia in the last few days. We have taken this opportunity to interview him.

[Rovensky] The Soviet-U.S. dialogue on medium-range missiles in Geneva seems to have entered the decisive period. What is typical for the U.S. positions? Do they suggest the talks could have a positive outcome?

[Gerasimov] I agree our Geneva talks on eliminating medium-range missiles are rather close to conclusion. They are not in the final stage outright but, at any rate, it should be possible to conclude them relatively soon if both sides show the political will to do so. In that case, the negotiations would be about the technical details of the agreement's verification [kontrola]. The Soviet Union is ready to go very far on this point to remove any U.S. misgivings. Of course, it is necessary to bear in mind that we, too, insist on reciprocity and must be completely assured of the U.S. side's observance of the agreement. But the situation is getting more complicated here. The United States says that it must consult its allies, adding that it does not want to exert pressure on them. Its allies say that they do not want to hurry, that they must explore the issue. This stand is rather strange because what is now being proposed by the Soviet side is what the Western side proposed several years ago -- in 1981.

We agree with the zero option. Now I often read in U.S. and other newspapers commentaries that the zero option itself never was seriously considered, that it was assumed in proposing it that the Soviet Union would say no. Now the Soviet Union says yes. It is thus becoming apparent that the Western stand was not sincere then, but that it was a trick.

The allies are now split and confused. Margaret Thatcher says one thing, Helmut Kohl another. They do not have a joint stand. Even the recent meeting of the NATO nuclear planning group in Norway failed to reach a common position. This, of course, makes it difficult to reply to the question when and whether at all it is possible to expect a positive outcome of the talks.

Here we must naturally consider the U.S. domestic political scene as well. It can be assumed that the Reagan administration, whose term of office is drawing to an end, would like to go down in history with some results. It does not have these results in domestic policy because the economic situation in the country now is such that it has nothing to brag about. Apart from this, the Irangate scandal is coming to a head. It is thus evident that they have nothing to boast of domestically. As for foreign policy, an agreement on the elimination of medium-range missiles could provide the Reagan administration with some sort of a final chord before its departure to the past.

But I repeat that in the United States itself there are forces which are opposed in principle to this agreement. They include also Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger. [paragraph continues]

These forces are afraid of an agreement especially because it would be the first agreement on a genuine reduction of nuclear weapons. They are afraid that after a first step a second would follow, that one stone would touch off an avalanche, that a second step would be followed by a third step and the process of nuclear disarmament as proposed by the Soviet Union would start.

[Rovensky] The possibility has surfaced at the Geneva Conference on Disarmament of concluding an international convention banning chemical weapons. What is the Soviet Union's position in this regard and what prospects for such a convention do you see?

[Gerasimov] Indeed, the talks in Geneva have made a long way toward the conclusion of an agreement banning chemical weapons. A special plant for the liquidation of chemical weapons is under construction in the Soviet Union. As far as verification [kontrola] is concerned, there is a good British proposal, there is a Soviet proposal, the possibility of a compromise exists. If there is political will, the changes in the area of banning chemical weapons, an area in which a great step ahead has been made, will be big enough. But, once again, the final word is up to the West.

[Rovensky] In a few recent statements you have spoken about the prospects for another Soviet-U.S. summit meeting. There is not much time left, in view of the presidential elections in the United States in November 1988. Do you think that a new summit is realistic and, if so, under what conditions?

[Gerasimov] We have said that if an agreement on the elimination of medium-range missiles is reached and, apart from that, if we agree with the Americans on key issues regarding reducing strategic offensive weapons and with regard to the "Star Wars," this would be a sufficient basis for a summit meeting to take place. Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev does not conceal the fact he is ready to go to the United States. But he cannot go there as a tourist. He already made President Reagan's acquaintance in Geneva and this getting-to-know-each-other continued in Reykjavik. To become acquainted for the third time does not make any sense. It is time for deeds. That is why, if diplomats reach sufficient progress in Geneva in summer, a summit could then be expected to take place in autumn.

Why in autumn? Because this is when the regular session of the UN General Assembly will be held, which is sometimes attended not only by ministers of foreign affairs but also by the leading representatives of various countries. Besides, autumn will be sufficiently before the U.S. presidential elections.

It is not enough to conclude an agreement. The conclusion of an agreement is certainly a big success but it is not everything. This holds particularly true for the United States where Congress and the Senate will yet have to ratify this agreement. That requires time.

Alexis de Tocqueville, a 19th century French diplomat, wrote the book "Democracy in America," which is still regarded as a classic. He wrote that once the election campaign begins in America, no one cares about foreign policy. For 1 year, 1 and 1/2 years, or 2 years after a presidential election, the new administration's foreign policy is just getting started. For 6 months or a year it then deals with foreign policy before the start of a new presidential campaign. Foreign policy is then moved to the sidelines again. Well, this insight of the preceding century holds true even today to a considerable extent.

It is precisely the domestic political situation that has a great impact on U.S. foreign policy.

Instead of thinking about ways of preserving peace and removing the nuclear threat hovering over mankind, the U.S. Administration thinks about ways of ensuring victory in the next elections.

[Rovensky] You are chief of the Information Directorate of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. What are the tasks of this administration and what are your experiences as the ministry's spokesman?

[Gerasimov] The Information Directorate was formed a year ago and I was entrusted with being its chief. I had not worked as a diplomat until then, I had worked as a journalist. I spent many years working in the NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY and in the last 3 years I served as chief editor of MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI. After receiving the invitation I thought about it, consulted my wife, and agreed.

Our assignment is to make sure that the world understands Soviet foreign policy. That is why we organize a number of news conferences. Twice a week we organize briefings.

Our assignment is to maintain continuous presence at the international "information market." Judging from the echo, including that coming from Western correspondents, our new policy of "glasnost" [preceding word in Russian] is meeting with success. It makes the work of foreign correspondents easier. I believe it facilitates the understanding of the true aspirations of the Soviet Union by the public of other countries, particularly in capitalist countries.

They always ascribed ill designs to us -- that we want to seize Europe, America, and Nicaragua by a surprise attack, that we want to get hold of the whole of the Middle East by way of Afghanistan, and so forth. Unfortunately, this stereotype about the "Soviet menance" lingers on in the thinking of many people in the West.

I believe our daily contacts with representatives of the international press -- there are 430 foreign correspondents in Moscow -- help to show what we really want. That is really not much. We want to ensure peaceful conditions for the solution of our internal problems, for our restructuring. We want all nations to live in peace and contentment.

That is why we proposed on 15 January 1986 the plan for a complete elimination of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. We are naturally prepared to reduce also conventional armaments and armed forces.

We want people to come to understand that we, the whole of mankind, are endangered by the nuclear threat and that we must join our forces to remove this threat.

I hope that with our work we contribute our modest share to making the realization of this threat percolate not only into public opinion, but also into the ruling circles of the West, and that this realization at the same time helps to make the relations between our countries -- socialist, capitalist, and developing ones -- civilized, such as exist in normal everyday human life when everyone respects the rights of others.

Our aim is a civilized community in which everyone is the maker of his own fortunes and in which all people, all states and nations live in normal human coexistence.

BUDAPEST INTERVIEWS GERASIMOV, FRG'S BAHR

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["Radio Diary" program, presented by Istvan Lipovecz with Colonel Peter Deak, Doctor of Sciences; Dr Istvan Koermendi, counsellor in the Foreign Ministry; and correspondents Istvan Kulcsar and Janos Elek; and with recorded comments by USSR Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov from Moscow and recorded comments by FRG Disarmament chief disarmament expert Egon Bahr from Hamburg]

[Excerpts] [Lipovecz] Good evening. You are listening to Radio Diary. Our topic today is military power relations. Our guests are Colonel Peter Deak, Doctor of Sciences, and Dr Istvan Koermendi, counsellor in the Foreign Ministry. They will answer your questions. [passage omitted]

[Elek] Col Deak, how do you define this concept of military power relations? What is it?

[Deak] Well, perhaps I could start by saying that military power relations do not exist on their own, but are part of the general, global power relations, which include the economic situation -- the state of the economic situation -- the extent of the society's development, its system of political institutions, its relationships, the population's moral condition, the level of technology or technoloies, and a series of other issues. [passage omitted]

[Kulcsar] Now I will ask that question of the diplomat, whom we introduced before, Istvan Koermendi, counsellor in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has just returned from Vienna to participate in this program. He arrived in Budapest by car this afternoon; this morning he was still sitting in on an international discussion. [passage omitted] The question, then, is: How do you define military power relations?

[Koermendi] As far as military power relations are concerned, the first thing I think of is the balance of power; and with regard to the balance of power, I think of the fact that it has developed to a terribly high level, both with respect to the Soviet Union and the United States, in both their military alliance systems. [passage omitted]

[Elek] We have a question from a Budapest listener, Laszlo Szigeti. He would like to know how we always say that the two opposing sides' forces are virtually equal, while the West keeps on talking about a Soviet threat?

[Kulcsar] Our guests are ready for the answer, but let us listen to two really competent opinions from New York and Moscow, which were recorded earlier by our correspondent. Elemer Csak interviewed Stephen Larrabee, scientific director of the Institute for Studies on East-West Security Affairs:

[Begin recording] [Csak] Of the two alliances, the two big powers, which do you think is the stronger? [passage omitted]

[Larrabee, in English with superimposed Hungarian translation] Well, in overall terms, I think the United States, in the political and economic field, is to a certain extent. However, in the military field there is more or less a strategic balance. [passage omitted] [end recording]

[Lipovecz] So that was the opinion from the United States. At least as important, in terms of competence, is the interlocutor of correspondent Jozsef Barath in Moscow, Gennadiy gerasimov, spokesman of the Soviet Foreign Ministry:

[Begin recording] [Barath] According to the Soviet stance, there exists between the East and the West, between the Soviet Union and the United States, an approximate balance in every basic class of armaments. Right-wing Western experts, on the other hand, with every possible -- and at times even with every impossible -- argument, try to prove that the Soviet Union has superiority. The objective is clear: They want to get more funds for new weapons. It is also clear, however, that the basis of such explanations is not only the complexity of the weapon systems but the existing asymmetry. Can I ask you to describe the situation that has solved regarding the classes of armaments?

[Gerasimov, in Russian with superimposed Hungarian translation] In the West, they are partial to harping on the various asymmetries, those that exist as well as those that have been made up, with the objective of proving that the Warsaw Treaty -- and within that primarily the Soviet Union -- has an overwhelming superiority in Europe. These arguments are used frequently, particularly now, to buttress the view that there is a need for nuclear deterrence, that nuclear weapons must be retained in Europe. In reailty, at the same time, among the experts the debate is to come extent about something else. For example, there is in London an international institute that deals with strategic research. Every year it issues an assessment. In their publication of last year they said that in Europe neither the West nor the East has at its disposal a force that would be sufficient for a successful attack. So if the apropriate force is lacking then there is no threat of a Soviet attack, either.

As for concrete facts, the NATO countries in Europe, if we include France and Spain as well, have 94 battle-ready divisions. They could say that France is not in that military organization, but in the event of a military confict, France and Spain also fall on the side of NATO. Thus, there are 94 divisions there. The Warsaw Treaty, on the other hand, has 78. The calculation can be continued even more precisely: A U.S. division represents 16-19,000 men; a West German one 23,000 men. At the same time, in the Warsaw Treaty a division represnts 11-12,000 men. Again, the comparison is difficult, but it is evident that NATO keeps many more men armed.

As for European power relations, we think there is a relative balance of power. At the same time, it can be easily proved that if NATO accepts our proposal, after it is implemented they will have many more nuclear weapons, since both Britain and France will keep their nuclear forces. The U.S. nuclear submarines, which belong under the NATO command, will remain, just as will the U.S. Air Force with its nuclear bombs.

[Barath] When British Prime Minister Maragaret Thatcher was in Moscow, Soviet papers reported the datum from one of her speeches that the ratio of tactical missiles in Europe is nine to one in favor of the Soviet Union. I have read no denial of this.

[Gerasiov] Well, there are various definitions. As far as I know, the British have no such definition as operational and tactical missile [hadmuevelti harcaszati raketa]. Many things still have to be brought to a common denominator here. But so that we many disarm scruples of this kind, the Soviet Union has offered this: If you are afraid of the operational and tactical missiles, all right, let us liquidate them as well, as a sort of supplement in addition to the medium-range missiles. But now that we have gone out to meet the West, they say: There is no need to eliminate these kinds of missiles entirely; let us rather discuss the equal level of operational and tactical missiles.

[Barath] Why is this standpoint dangerous?

[Gerasimov] Because if the West did not yet have a particular type of missile, its creation would now commence; new types of weapons will come into being to equalize the number of Soviet missiles belonging to the given class.

[Barath] In recent days, at the international theoretical conference held in honor of the PRAVDA anniversary, Anatoliy Dobrynin made an extremely interesting speech. One of the -- I think -- brand new theses in this was that according to the Soviet Union's stance, every state should be content with a level of armed forces that is still suitable for defense but insufficient for attack. Dobrynin said that the research of the European opposition social democratic parties in this regard were very interesting. I think that this is a principled novelty in the Soviet stance.

[Gerasimov] We happen to think that every country's military doctrine should be defensive in nature; and in accordance with such a defensive military doctrine, states would be allowed an appropriate defense, but would not have the means necessary for a successful attack. There is another category: rationally sufficient quantity. In other words, armaments should remain at a sufficient military level. In our day a paradoxical situation has come into being whereby both sides possess many more nuclear weapons than would be necessary to annihilate the opponent. For this reason, we propose that we should first of all reduce the nuclear armaments to the rationally sufficient amount, and then rid ourselves of them completely. We think the same thing about conventional weapons -- every country should have an amount necessary for defense but it should not be able to launch an attack. [end recording]

[Lipovecz] That was an interview with Gennadiy Gerasimov, Soviet foreign affairs spokesman.

[Elek] We continue with Radio Diary and the question: Who is the stronger? [passage omitted]

[Koermendi] I do not think that one can draw a conclusion from the present military power relations that any nuclear power, in any area of the field of power relations, has superiority that might be used for a political objective, or could be made use of during a conflict for his own ends. [passage omitted]

[Kulcsar] Janos Eleck and I met on a number of occasions in Geneva in recent years. Neither of us went there on holiday; we were both there to report on the Soviet-U.S. negotiations, including the Gorbachev-Reagan summit.

[Elek] A specialist told me there that if one wants to follow the Soviet-U.S. talks, one would do better to take an apartment instead of living in a hotel. Well, the negotiations are still under way in Geneva. We hear a lot about them, but learn little beyond the fact that they are secret negotiations. What can our military expert tell us?

[Deak] Well, the medium-range missiles are now the focus of the talks.

[Elek] And what is not at the center of the talks?

[Deak] I think that right now the issue of the militarization of space is not the focus of these talks. Right now it is a question of studying this issue. There is now some movement regarding reduction in strategic weapons on the basis of the proposals put forward in Reykjavik.

[Elek] So there are these three groups negotiating in Geneva. What is the justification for saying that the greatest interest, or shall we say expectation, concerns medium-range weapons?

[Deak] The justification is primarily that after Reykjavik, the Soviet Union decided to open the Reykjavik package and take out the first present it contained, the first problem, the issue of the medium-range missiles and European medium-range weapons, and treat this separately.

[Koermendi] Naturally, however, not entirely separate from the other problems.

[Kulcsar] Does the fact that this was taken out of the package mean that an agreement has thereby come about? Practically every other day we read predictions in the newspapers that a summit can be expected, that an agreement can be expected. What can the diplomat tell us about this?

[Koermendi] As Col Deak has said, since the negotiations on space defense or missile defense systems, strategic weapons, and the medium-range weapons took place in a parallel manner, it was not possible to solve them together. Consequently, to achieve a breakthrough, the Soviet Union selected the element that offered the greatest scope for a breakthrough, for reaching a first agreement -- the issue of the medium-range weapons. These have a range from 1,000 to 5,500 kilometers; as for examples, primarily the Soviet SS-20 and the NATO Pershing-2 and cruise missiles are involved.

[Elek] Were it possible to reach an agreement on dismantling these in Europe, could a Gorbachev-Reagan summit come about?

[Koermendi] It is difficult to determine in advance precisely the preconditions for a summit meeting. What I would say is that an agreement on the limitation of medium-range weapons would be the minimum that would make a summit possible under normal -- and, for both sides, acceptable -- conditions. However, naturally, since negotiations are also under way concerning other types of missiles, strategic missiles and antimissile defenses, it would be very useful if a summit meeting could register at least some sort of preliminary agreement on what sort of advance can be envisaged in these two other categories, or what sort of progress has so far been achieved in the negotiations.

[Elek] However, let us not conclude so easily on the first category either; the issue of the medium-range weapons is a rather complicated one. We have a foreign view on this question as well. The editor of this program, Ivan Lipovecz, interviewed Egon Bahr, the chief disarmament expert of the West German Social Democrats, in Hamburg last week.

[Begin recording] [Lipovecz] Mr Bahr, it is now a good 3 years since the deployment of medium-range missiles began in the Federal Republic. Would you have thought at that time that in such a relatively short time the situation would change so radically?

[Bahr, in German with superimposed Hungarian translation] I did not expect this, just as I did not expect Mr Gorbachev to become the general secretary of the CPSU.

[Lipovecz] Independent of Mr Gorbachev, did you expect changes to occur in the Soviet position, on the one hand, and -- surprisingly -- in the U.S. position?

[Bahr] I cannot separate this from the person. The change in the Soviet position, the extent of that change, cannot be separated from Gorbachev. He, or at least the Soviet leadership under his direction, took up a position which I think is historically correct. This is because it takes as its point of departure that one cannot demand greater security on either side regardless how one arms oneself. In our age it has become totally senseless for anyone to arm oneself to achieve superior strength, since this sort of superiority involves greater risks without offering any greater chances of victory. The only conclusion one can draw from this is that it is right to diminish all sorts of superiority in strength in any area. The Soviet proposals take this as their point of departure.

[Lipovecz] Is it not strange that for a whole decade, while the talks concerned only strategic weapons, the West Europeans were in full agreement with what went on? Now, however, when the medium-range weapons -- which concern them more closely -- are on the agenda, West European politicians keep standing up to say that something is wrong here.

[Bahr] You know, we are all inclined to overestimate the wisdom of the Europeans. However, objectively speaking, I can only state with some regret that it will take a while before the Europeans come to recognize their real interests. Europe is only now beginning to determine its own security interests, and to represent them in relation to both leading powers. I have noticed this also regarding the countries of Eastern Europe. Take Czechoslovakia, where new Soviet missiles have been deployed, whereby Czechoslovakia became the target of new Western strike plans: and the FRG, where new U.S. missiles have been deployed, whereby it has become the target of further strike plans by the Warsaw Treaty. There is nothing more natural in this world than for these countries to say that if we get rid of these types of weapons, then it will become unnecessary to have our territories targeted.

[Lipovecz] According to you, the great military potential is interpreted on both sides as a deterrent force. In other words, you too do not expect these weapons to be used in a war. In this case, how far would the reducton or total elimination of this arsenal change the military balance in other areas of armaments?

[Bahr] Fundamentally, as long as the number of strategic weapons is not reduced to zero, essentially nothing has changed. As I see it, this will take some time. We must also see that the chances for the Europeans to exert any influence are very small. They should concentrate on those things where they are given a chance to exert an influence. This is the stability that may be achieved in the area of traditional armaments between the Atlantic Ocean and the Urals. In the coming years this will definitely be the main scene of action in Europe from the diplomatic and political aspects. In this connection, my view is that we must certainly avoid one mistake: for 12 years in Vienna we each tried quite uselessly to prove to the other side how strong it is, how many men it keeps in arms. Every game of this sort with the figures is doomed to failure. We could go on negotiating until the end of the century without persuading the other side. Instead, we should concentrate on what the result should be.

Personally, at the moment I am not at all interested in the debate on how strong one side or the other is. What I am interested in is whether or not each side is willing to agree to eliminate its superiority in those areas where it is enjoying a superiority over the other side. Each side must preserve the ability to defend itself. The offensive capacities, however, must disappear. [end recording]

[Koermendi] During the talks on strategic weapons, the Americans in Geneva took a step backwards. They want to reduce the time limit on the agreement on antimissile systems from 10 to 7 years, and they want to raise from 5 to 7 years the proposed time limit for the 50 percent reduction of nuclear weapons. This means that by the time the 50 percent missile reduction came into being, they could create a shield in the space defense system that would increase the value of the remaining 50 percent.

[Kulcsar] So these are the two points of discussion in which, as Col Deak mentioned earlier, we have fewer hopes. We have more hope, however, in the matter of medium-range weapons, in which the result -- if there is an agreement -- could be a summit meeting this year perhaps.

[Koermendi] In this regard, allow me to refer to what Egon Bahr said, and which has perhaps appeared in an earlier interview. In Western Europe, people from certain political parties and military experts, insist that nuclear weapons remain in Western Europe, and, in Europe in general at a relatively high level. They are extremely cautious in whatever category arms are to be reduced. This is a conservative -- in the old, cautious meaning of the word -- conception of security that asserts there have been 4 decades of peace in Europe because of the very high military opposition: both halves are afraid that the other has too great a military capacity, that there is the possibility of mutual annihilation. As a result, this ensured peace.

[Kulcsar] The balance of terror.

[Koermendi] The balance of terror very strongly motivates the behavior of certain West European politicians and political parties. But despite this, I believe that the talks in the next period will prove that the balance of terror, or more precisely the balance of security, can now be brought about at a lower force level, at a level that does not mean an existential danger and constant threat to either side.

[Kulcsar] If this agreement comes about, it will be the first one where there is an actual reduction. All earlier agreements only decided the extent to which the number of weapons could be increased. This would be the first agreement whereby they would really take things out of the arsenals, where weapons would be destroyed.

[Koermendi] And they carry out checks.

[Elek] Tibor Hercsug, a listener, asks why we defend peace with weapons? Why can we not unilaterally reduce the weapons on our side? The same is proposed by Ilona Fekete, who asks what would happen if the Warsaw Treaty disarmed totally, unilaterally? In this case, would the NATO troops overrun Eastern Europe?

[Deak] Unilateral steps are not something new in the efforts of the Warsaw Treaty. From 1958 onward, unilateral disarmament steps have appeared continuously.

This year, we have the example of the moratorium, the problem of the Kola peninsula, and so on. However, responsible military leadership can only go so far. In this question it can only go to the limit of a certain maintenance of balance.

[Koermendi] I agree with what Col Deak said, but let me emphasize the opposite. In present international political conditions, the balance of forces ensures the one state that creates a situation for both sides -- it is acceptable in that one side does not have to fear the military superiority and political blackmail of the other.

[Elek] What would happen if one side unilaterally disarmed?

[Koermendi] There are defined limits to unilateral disarmament. In reality, the socialist countries, first and foremost the Soviet Union, took such steps, as was just mentioned. In the end, the proximity of an agreement on medium-range missiles is based on the Soviet Union making significant political diplomatic concessions from the stance it took during previous phases of talks.

[Elek] But this does not mean unilateral disarmament.

[Koermendi] This does mean unilateral disarmament. These unilateral steps, even if they have their own military significance, are basically of political, diplomatic significance, and these happen as part of preserving the general balance of power. The basic formula of the situation is that the existing balance brought about at the very high level of powers must be brought about somehow on a more secure, lower level. But the key to the situation is the existence of the balance of power. [passage omitted]

PACT LEADERS ATTEND POST-SESSION MEETING

LD291443 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 29 May 87

[Text] A report from Berlin: Following the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states, a meeting of heads of delegations of the participant states took place. Attending the meeting were: Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and chairman of the State Council of the Republic; MSZMP General Secretary Janos Kadar; Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council; Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council; Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP general secretary and president of Romania; Mikhail Sergeyvich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and president of Czehoslovakia.

The meeting was conducted in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

GDR OFFICIALS SEE GORBACHEV DELEGATION OFF

LD291628 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1550 GMT 29 May 87

[Text] Berlin, 29 May (Special TASS correspondent) -- A Soviet delegation headed by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which took part in the proceedings of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states left Berlin for Moscow today.

The delegation included Andrey Gromyko, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee; Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; Eduard Shevardnadze, USSR minister of foreign affairs and candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee; Sergey Sokolov, USSR minister of defense; and Vadim Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

At the airport the delegation was seen off by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED and chairman of the GDR State Council; Willi Stoph, member of the Politburo of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers; and other party and state leaders of the GDR.

Among those who saw the delegation off was Vyacheslav Kochemasov, USSR ambassador to the GDR.

GORBACHEV CABLES GREETINGS TO HONECKER, JARUZELSKI

LD291732 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1645 GMT 29 May 87

[Text] M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, sent a telegram from on board his aircraft to E. Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council. The telegram reads:

"On leaving the GDR I wish to express gratitude for the hospitality extended to the delegation of the Soviet Union at the conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states and for the excellent conditions created for the work of this conference.

All our fraternal parties are correct to take pride in its results and in the decisions and documents adopted which again invite mankind, and primarily the peoples and governments of Europe, to make joint efforts toward genuine disarmament and strengthening peace and international security.

"Please convey my best greetings and wishes to the people of the GDR and the inhabitants of its capital, Berlin, which this year is celebrating its 750th anniversary."

From his aircraft, M.S. Gorbachev sent the following telegram to W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and chairman of the Polish State Council.

"As I fly over the territory of fraternal Poland, I would like to convey to the entire Polish people greetings and best wishes. Soviet and Polish communists quite rightly see in the widening and deepening of cooperation between their neighbor countries the guarantee of successful achievement of the tasks of accelerated socioeconomic development. The friendly harmony that characterizes relations between the CPSU and the PZPR is the pledge that, in acting in the spirit of the accords of the Berlin conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states, the USSR and Poland, together with the other fraternal countries, are making a substantial contribution to the cause of strengthening peace, of disarmament, and of easing military confrontation in Europe."

ZAYKOV, OTHERS MEET GORBACHEV DELEGATION IN MOSCOW

LD291842 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1815 GMT 29 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 29 May (TASS) -- The Soviet delegation headed by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, returned to Moscow today from Berlin. The delegation had been taking part in the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states.

At the airport the delegation was met by CPSU Central Committee Politburo members L.N. Zaykov, Ye.K. Ligachev, M.S. Solomentsev, and V.M. Chebrikov; CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate members P.N. Demichev, V.I. Dolgikh, B.N. Yeltsin, N.N. Slyunkov, N.V. Talyzin and A.N. Yakovlev; CPSU Central Committee secretaries A.P. Briyukova, A.F. Dobrynin, A.I. Lukyanov, V.P. Nikonov and G.P. Razumovskiy; CPSU Central Auditing Commission Chairman I.V. Kapitonov; and other comrades.

LOGINOV EXPLAINS PACT MILITARY DOCTRINE DOCUMENT

LD011646 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 1 Jun 87

[Text] A briefing was held today at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs press center in Moscow for Soviet and foreign journalists, on the results of the conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the member states of the Warsaw Pact. Speaking at the briefing was Vadim Petrovich Loginov, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs. In examining the documents adopted at the conference, he said, inter alia:

[Begin Loginov recording] A document on the military doctrine of the member states of the Warsaw Pact was adopted at the conference.

It says clearly their military doctrine is of a strictly defensive nature, and is based on the need to maintain a balance of military forces at the lowest level possible and on the expediency of reducing potentials to levels sufficient for defense. What has given rise to the appearance of this document?

Greater significance is currently acquired by a correct understanding of the aims and intentions of states and of military-political alliances in the military sphere, as embodied in their military doctrines. In the nuclear and space age the world has become too fragile for war and for policies of force. In conditions when colossal quantities of the most lethal weapons have accumulated, mankind has found itself faced with the problem of survival. A world war, still more a nuclear war, would have catastrophic consequences, not only for the countries directly involved in the conflict, but also for life itself on earth.

Realizing this and proceeding from the need for the final removal of war from the life of mankind, a halt to the arms race, the ruling out of the use of military force, the strengthening of peace and security, and the implementation of complete and universal disarmament, the Warsaw Pact states thus decided to set forth the fundamental tenets of their military doctrine, which forms the basis of the activities of the Warsaw Pact and reflects the common nature of the defense and military and political goals of its member states and their national military doctrines.

The Warsaw Pact's military doctrine, like the military doctrines of each of its participants, so this important document states, is subordinate to the task of averting both nuclear and conventional war. By virtue of the very nature of the socialist social structure, these states have not linked and do not link their future with a military resolution of international problems. They advocate that all disputed international issues be resolved only peaceably, through political means.

The crux of the Warsaw Pact's military doctrine is as follows: The Warsaw Pact's member states will never, in any circumstances, begin military action against any state or alliance of states whatsoever, if they themselves are not the object of an armed attack. They will never use nuclear weapons first. They are not making territorial claims toward any state either in Europe or beyond Europe. They do not regard any state or any people as their enemy. On the contrary, they are prepared to build relations with all countries in the world without exception, on the basis of mutual consideration of security interests and peaceful coexistence. [end recording]

Comments on Pact Meeting

LD011314 Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 1 Jun 87

[Text] A deputy foreign minister of the Soviet Union Vadim Loginov has stated that the results of the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty countries in Berlin has shown clearly their desire to make progress in the field of disarmament. Vadim Loginov told a Radio Moscow correspondent that the Warsaw Treaty countries propose to the NATO countries holding talks on the most complicated issues about the military doctrines of the two alliances and measures that should be taken to build up confidence. The public in the NATO countries has taken notice of those proposals and it can be said that the first reaction to them was on the whole positive. We are not disapponted, he added, by the fact that there has still been no official reaction on the part of NATO. We expect the governments of the NATO countries to study the proposals of the Warsaw Treaty countries and give well-weighed, constructive answer. [sentence as heard]

'INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS'

LD292316 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 29 May 87

["International Situation -- Questions and Answers" program presented by Vladimir Pasko, All-Union Radio foreign political commentator; with Anatoliy Petrovich Shipovalov, international affairs correspondent; Vitaliy Yakovlevich Chudseyuev, TASS editor in chief for foreign information; Igor Surguchev, not further identified; Sergey Pravdin, international affairs correspondent; Petr Fedorov, not further identified]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Pasko] Comrade Gorbachev's visit to Romania is another subject which is being widely discussed now by the press of various countries. [passage omitted] I hand the microphone to Anatoliy Petrovich Shipovalov, international affairs journalist.

[Shipovalov] The official, friendly visit by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee to the Socialist Republic of Romania, which has been completed, is one of those events which as a rule evoke broad response abroad; so it was on this occasion. The world reacted instantly and, as one would expect, in different ways. Our friends received the visit and its results with profound satisfaction and as a notable landmark in the chronicle of Soviet-Romanian relations. [passage omitted] Before I came to the studio, I studied the publications of a number of the newspapers of Western countries. The style, and, consequently, the content of them remained the same. Particularly zealous were THE WASHINGTON POST and THE NEW YORK TIMES, who resorted to all kinds of hints and innuendos, trying to smear the true state of affairs in Socialist Romania as well as Soviet-Romanian relations. [passage omitted]

[Pasko] Questions of USSR-U.S. relations continue to interest a considerable number of our listeners. It is 15 years since one of the most important agreements of modern times -- the Basis of Mutual Relations between the Soviet Union and the United States was signed in Moscow. [passage omitted] The leadership of the two countries has made considerable efforts to give an impetus to the process aimed at reducing the threat of a nuclear war, and people are quite rightly asking the question: what has prevented progress along this path? [passage omitted] Over to Vitaliy Yakovlevich Chukseyev, TASS editor in chief for foreign information.

[Chukseyev] Why are we going through such a difficult period in Soviet-U.S. relations which are still at the crossroads? The reply that many leading U.S. observers and politicians give sounds much the same. It is the United States which bears the responsibility for their present state, and it is the Reagan administration which is to blame for the most acute cooling of the Soviet-U.S. climate. The moment the Reagan administration came into office it started to systematically smash the cement of the foundations of mutual relations between the Soviet Union and the United States on all 12 points of the 1972 agreement, from arms control to cultural and scientific contacts. [passage omitted]

The Reagan administration also has unceremoniously cast aside the point of the agreement that the ideological differences between the USSR and the United States are not an obstacle in the way of the development of normal relations between them. Our country was called the evil empire in order to inflame even more the atmosphere of mistrust and fear of the Soviet Union, and at the same time, to provide propaganda cover for the present course. However, the brainwashing of the American people in this way is now working less and less. I was able to convince myself of this during a recent visit to the United States as part of a group of Soviet journalists.

From our numerous meetings with politicians and public figures, journalistic colleagues and ordinary Armericans, we formed the impression that now in the United States there is literally a resurgence of interest in the life of our country and the process of the changes taking place in our society. Let us hope that this interest leads to understanding and, at the same time, to a strengthening of trust.

The U.S. Administration, which is being given an historic opportunity to make a real contribution to the cause of nuclear disarmament by supporting the Soviet initiatives regarding the scrapping of nuclear missiles in Europe, is, it seems to me, now undergoing another test of this trust. The peoples are right to demand that an end be put to the game of cat-and-mouse in solving such important issues as the consolidation of peace and security in Europe and throughout the world.

[Pasko] The restructuring which is under way in the country has noticeably increased the public and civic activity of the Soviet people. This is also evident from the radio mailbag. A whole number of letters touch upon reaction in the West to the processes going on in our country. Comrade (Sustan) from Ust-Ilimsk asks: Why is there such popularity for, and increased interest in, our restructuring? Evidently, they believe that we are undergoing a process towards capitalization and pluralism, he writes.

The reason for Comrade (Sustan)'s interest is the revolutionary nature of our restructuring, for it is a matter of the reorganization of the whole of our social mechanism. [passage omitted]

The democratization of our society also is being presented in a false way. This system is extremely painful to the West. Seen against the background of what is begin done in our country, the freedoms which are bandied about by so-called bourgeois democracy appear particularly hypocritical. They are whipping up this theme. Some, closing their eyes and ears, continue to claim that in general there cannot be democracy with the Soviets because they have a one-party system -- they call our society a totalitarian one -- while others voice hopes that we will take -- and indeed are moving along -- the road to a Western-style democracy. One cannot understand on what such claims are based, for in the West, workers' participation in management of production and the state -- as distinct from us -- is excluded by the system itself. The theorists of pluralism want very much to attach us to their schemes. What wishful thinking! But the intrigues of ideological enemies will not make us give up what we have started. [passage omitted]

A fair number of letters reach our program from people who are interested in the present state of and prospects for relations between our country and China. [passage omitted] Boris Andrianov, international affairs journalist, replies to you:

[Andrianov] There have been noticeably favorable changes in our relations with China in recent years in virtually all fields. Contacts at nongovernmental, parliamentary and public level and ties between ministries and departments have broadened. [passage omitted]

There exists a similarity in our positions on many cardinal international problems, although serious differences remain in approach to a number of problems, for example Afghanistan and Cambodia. It is important to emphasize that the Soviet Union and China -- two nuclear powers in Asia -- have taken the commitment not to be the first to use nuclear weapons. Our country duly appreciates the PRC's position in opposing the militarization of outer space in any form.

I believe that one should note as a very positive factor the resumption of talks between the USSR and the PRC on the border question. They were halted in 1978. [passage omitted] We believe that with goodwill it is possible to reach an accord on the border problem by acting in a spirit of tractability and good-neighborliness in a search for a mutually-acceptable solution.

A normal and tranquil situation now exists on the Soviet-Chinese border, incidentally the longest in the world with a length of 7,500 km.

Much in international affairs depends on the two major socialist states, the USSR and the PRC. The creative plans, on the implementation of which the peoples of the two neighboring states -- just like the peoples of other socialist states -- are working can only be realized in conditions of peace, the most important precondition of which is curbing the arms race and disarmament and the creation of an all-embracing system of international security. [passage omitted]

NATO EXERCISES TO BEGIN IN TURKEY 5 JUNE

LD011034 Moscow TASS in English 1017 GMT 1 Jun 87

[Text] Ankara June 1 TASS -- The manoeuvres of the NATO mobile forces code-named "Aurora-Express-87" will begin in Turkey's eastern areas on June 5. They will involve more than 5,000 servicemen from the seven NATO countries: Turkey, the United States, Britain, West Germany, Belgium, Italy and Luxemburg, the Turkish news agency AA reports. Aircraft and other military equipment are moved to the areas of Kars, Erzurum and Agra.

The report says that the objective of the maneouvres is to practise interaction of the NATO armed forces in deploying mobile units and small units.

IZVESTIYA DERIDES REPORT ON U.S. EMBASSY PROBLEMS

PM020811 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[R. Sergeyev "Rejoinder": "Cigarette Butts, Agents, and Common Sense"]

[Text] Rightly is it said that human stupidity is also a divine gift. But it is usually recommended that the gift not be abused. This good advice was not, unfortunately, taken by the authors of a recently issued Congress report on the "difficulties" allegedly being artificially created by the Soviet authorities to hinder the "normal everyday activity of staffers at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow."

It would appear that the authors of the report visited the Soviet capital and met with certain embassy officials. And what nonsense was put in their heads! The deliberate contamination of drinking water supplied to the American diplomatic mission so as to cause American diplomats gastric and intestinal complaints and the secret infiltration of Soviet "agents" on frosty winter's days into the apartments of U.S. Embassy officials to put their heating systems out of action. The authors of the report enthusiastically relate how water froze in the lavatories and excess water in the toilets caused flooding in the embassy.

That this was all done by "Soviet agents" was shown by the butts of Russian cigarettes deliberately left behind. Judging by the report, "Soviet dirty tricks" are not limited to within the walls of the ill-starred apartment block on Chaykovskiy Street. It gets worse as you go on. The wooden fencing temporarily erected around the embassy building was, it appears, put up to spite American diplomats by making them wade through the Moscow mud in their American boots.

You will say this is nonsense and gibberish. Not at all! It is an official report compiled by officials for an official institution.

Why, then, did the authors of this work of rare humor need to shock Congress with such an array of fabricated nonsense? They wanted to prepare American and world public opinion for possible legislation and decisions against Soviet citizens and establishments in the United States in line with the present American administration's mood. And the report even lists "countermeasures" the Americans intend to take.

They envisage many things, but one is missing: How to teach the authors of such reports and their advisors common sense.

AUSTRIAN GOVERNESS OF U.S. DIPLOMAT 'DETAINED'

LD012012 Moscow TASS in English 1818 GMT 1 Jun 87

[Text] Moscow June 1 TASS -- "It was by accident that Christina Hassinen was detained. If it were not for vigilance of a voluntary people's patrol that detained on May 2 in a cozy yard not far from the Pushkin Square two black-marketeers who tried to sell foreign-labelled clothes to two young women, Christina Hassinen would have possibly continued her activity, "OGONEK" magazine writes in its latest issue. [quotation marks as received]

A representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry was invited to a local militia office after it had been established that one of the women was a foreigner who, moreover, refused to produce her documents.

A curious book was removed in his presence from her bag. It was a book in English entitled "Franz Liszt as Man and Musician". But there was not a single word about Liszt in the book. It was nothing but anti-Soviet propaganda with calls for a third world war. Besides the book, her bag contained a pack of Soviet money, a charger, and the most interesting thing, a developed text in cryptography.

Christina Hassinen, an Austrian citizen, turned out to be an emissary of the foreign-based United Christian organisation. She came to Moscow in October 1986 as a governess of attache of the U.S. Embassy Fred Mecke. During her stay in the USSR she tried to form an underground group, was supplying it with money, with anti-Soviet literature, with means of cryptography.

Several words are as to what the United Christian organisation is like. Its leader, a certain Moon, is quite well known. A big businessman, he conceived the idea that he had a "mission" to rid the world of "communist heresy". Moon's religious platform is a hash of various views, they are quite obvious. Proclaiming himself to be the savior of the world from communism, Moon invests the incomes of his empire (building corporations, banking, shipyards, ship-owning companies) into the creation of an "anti-communist international." He maintains close contacts with the U.S. special services. Hence the scope of his activity and agents such as Christina Hassinen.

The case of Christina Hassinen is not the only such case. Foreign citizen Pamella Karne was detained at a gathering of a group of followers of the United Christian organisation in Kalinin in 1983. She, too, was a governess in the family of U.S. diplomat William Plankert.

One would not like to believe that the American diplomats were aware of the activities of their governesses in the USSR.

Such cases can hardly promote the strengthening of confidence between the USSR and the USA. And we hope that members of staff of the U.S. Embassy realize this, too, "OGONEK" writes in conclusion.

'DISCRIMINATORY MEASURES' START AGAINST BLOC MEDIA

LD011309 Moscow TASS in English 1153 GMT 1 Jun 87

[Text] Washington June 1 TASS -- The U.S. State Department's discriminatory measures against media people from socialist countries in Washington take effect today.

The measures include the cancellation of their permanent passes to the press section of the department which they now may only visit under the escort of its personnel, after giving advance notice of their plans to go there.

U.S. officials explained the measures by citing "security considerations".

Correspondents accredited at the State Department in this connection sent letters to the chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the president of the newsmen's association at the State Department and the president of the Overseas Writers' Association in Washington last week.

They described the measures as blatantly discriminatory and said it was their common opinion that the new rules were in glaring violation of the Helsinki Final Act which provided for facilitating the work of journalists and helping them gather information.

The letters said that the State Department in its decision implied improper conduct by newsmen but had not corroborated that with any proof to this day.

The discriminatory action taken against correspondents from socialist countries reflects the common policy of certain American circles of blocking the process of improving relations with Warsaw Treaty countries.

DOBRYNIN, SENATOR GORE HOLD 'FRANK DISCUSSION'

PM011517 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In a Constructive Spirit"]

[Text] On 28 May Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, received U.S. Senator Albert Gore at his request. As is known, the senator recently announced his candidacy for U.S. President.

There was a frank discussion [Otkrovenno Obsuzhdalis] of the present unsatisfactory state of Soviet-American relations and of finding ways for setting them right. An agreement on the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe would be a major step in this direction and the American senator's attention was drawn to this.

Albert Gore agreed that vigorous efforts and a new mentality on both sides have never been more urgent than now to achieve progress in reducing nuclear armaments. He expressed the view that these issues, just as questions of improving Soviet-American relations in general, will be prominent in the election campaign in the United States.

Albert Gore showed lively interest in the USSR's restructuring process and these developments were explained to him.

The conversation passed in a constructive spirit of goodwill.

MURAKHOVSKIY, HAMMER VIEW AGRO-INDUSTRIAL CONTACTS

LD300142 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 29 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 29 TASS -- Concrete questions of developing cooperation in some fields of agri-industrial production between the USSR State Agri-Industrial Committee and the Occidental Petroleum Corporation were discussed here today by Vsevolod Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, chairman of the USSR State Agri-Industrial Committee, and Dr. Armand Hammer, chairman of the American company's board.

MOSCOW COURT ADJOURNS CASE AGAINST U.S. CITIZEN

PM261311 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 26 May 87 Morning Edition p 6

[Unattributed report: "Case Adjourned"]

[Text] The Moscow City Court sat on 25 May to consider the action by IZVESTIYA against U.S. citizen R.P. Grigorian to defend the newspaper's honor and dignity. Neither the defendant nor his representative appeared in court.

In order to give the defendant the opportunity to defend his interests in court, the lawyer G.P. Padva, representing IZVESTIYA, asked for an adjournment of the case and for the defendant to be notified of it again. The court, under the chairmanship of Moscow City Court member A.I. Fedin, decided to adjourn the case until 16 November in view of the defendant's nonappearance and the absence of information about his having been notified in the proper manner.

SOVIET SCIENTISTS EXCLUDED FROM OCEAN PROJECT

PM261135 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 87 p 3

[TASS report: "But the Pentagon Is Against It"]

[Text] According to a WASHINGTON TIMES report, in late April President Reagan decided to prevent the USSR's participation in the international program for the study of the ocean bed.

In addition to U.S. scientists, specialists from Britain, France, the FRG, Canada, and Japan, and a consortium of 12 small European countries are taking part in the implementation of this project begun at the initiative of the U.S. National Science Foundation. Some 2 years ago the National Science Foundation sent an official invitation to the USSR Academy of Sciences. The Soviet side accepted. But immediately after that the Pentagon demanded that the White House ban the participation of Soviet scientists in the program. An official White House spokesman who wished to remain anonymous has told THE WASHINGTON TIMES that "the President has decided that we should not cooperate with the Russians in this field. We are retracting the invitation sent to them."

ATMOSPHERIC STUDIES BEGIN WITH U.S. SCIENTISTS

LD020630 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1700 GMT 31 May 87

[Text] Scientists from Leningrad and their U.S. counterparts from the Washington State branch of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have begun observations of the atmospheric shield of the biosphere, the ozone layer over the Soviet Pacific coastline. Comprehensive research of the planet's mantle has been carried out from on-board an Il-18 airliner, an airborne, specially equipped laboratory. At the same time atmosphere probes have been launched from Soviet and U.S. expeditionary vessels. This experiment represents a continuation of the Soviet-U.S. program of studying the influence atmospheric and oceanic processes have on the formation of weather and climate.

IZVESTIYA NOTES PRC OFFICIAL ON FOREST FIRES

PM291456 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 May 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Yu. Savenkov report: "Fire Damage"]

[Text] Beijing -- Liu Guangyun, PRC vice minister of forestry, began his news conference for Chinese and foreign journalists with this statement: On 27 May at 0500 hours the devastating forest fire which had raged for 3 weeks in the region of Daxinganling (Heilongjiang Province) was extinguished on the surface over the entire area.

He showed a photograph taken by an artificial satellite. Of course, Liu Guangyun stressed, there remains the danger of a recurrence of fire which has been concealed at a deeper level, and therefore every effort must be taken to prevent smoldering sparks from flaring up.

[Unidentified questioner] What is the damage?

[Liu Guangyun] According to preliminary calculations the fire struck a territory of 1 million hectares (of which 650,000 hectares are forest). Bridges, tunnels, and railroads were destroyed. More than 56,000 people were made homeless, 191 died, and 221 were seriously injured.

[Unidentified questioner] What are the lessons of the fire?

[Liu Guangyun] The method of isolating the seat of fire by creating fire breaks (in the course of the fight against the fire their width was gradually increased from 50 to 200 meters) proved very effective. The three echelon method (firemen, soldiers, civilians) was also effective. All those involved in fighting the fire showed great courage. The "artificial rain" operation played an important part in the final stage. On 24 May airmen managed to start artificial precipitation. The next day they stimulated rain of average force.

It should be admitted, the vice minister noted, that the fire fighting equipment and apparatus of the fire brigades in the disaster region were not up to modern standards. Fire prevention measures could also have been more effective.

PAPER VIEWS NEW ENTERPRISE INDEPENDENCE

PM261411 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 15 May 87 p 3

[Doctor of Economic Sciences Ye. Konovalov article under the rubric "Replies to Readers' Questions": "China: Management by Enterprises" -- first three paragraphs are reader's letter]

[Text] Our press has carried reports about economic reform in China giving more independence to enterprises, switching to self-capitalizing, and so on. I would like to know more details about this.

Engineer M. Sokolov

Mytishchi, Moscow Oblast.

Indeed, the expansion of enterprises' rights and independence is perceived in China as a key element of economic reform in the cities. The report by Zhao Ziyang, premier of the PRC State Council, at the recent session of the National People's Congress listed the following goal as first of six tasks relating to the implementation of reform in 1987: "to create and improve the management machinery taking due account of enterprise rights and obligations...so that enterprises can really become relatively independent, self-managed, and self-capitalized units."

The prospects of "reviving" enterprises in China are linked not only with the reform of management at plants and factories themselves, but also with the improvement of mutual relations between the state, departments, local authority organs, and grass-roots economic links. The point is that a decentralization of the management of state enterprises has been taking place in the country over the last 2 years. Departmental functions relating to the solution of many questions have been handed over to local authorities. In parallel with direct directive planning, increasingly broad use is being made of indirect planning, under which the main role is played by economic levers and incentives.

Directive plans now cover only 60 types of the most important industrial output, and these commodities account for only 20 percent of output volume in terms of value. There has been a sharp reduction in the range of centralized deliveries of raw and other materials and energy. Even in terms of vitally important materials like, for example, rolled metal products, the proportion of decentralized deliveries is higher than that of state-funded deliveries.

Enterprises acquire much of what they need for normal operations independently on the domestic market. Equally independently, they market a considerable part of their finished products and, moreover, the conditions of sale depend on the prevailing market conditions.

Practice in the last few years has shown, however, that the country lacks conditions for the transformation of hundreds of thousands of large and small industrial enterprises into "independent producers." The position of numerous plants and factories has deteriorated due to adverse market conditions. The number of loss-making enterprises is growing, and some of them have been forced to declare bankruptcy. The property of one plant in the city of Shenyang was sold off at auction.

Nonetheless, the policy of granting genuine independence to enterprises is being implemented. It is primarily linked with the system of top leaders' personal responsibility for the results of economic activity. The demand to institute "comprehensive responsibility of directors for the activities of enterprises" can be heard throughout the country, and the newspapers are carrying calls to ensure that directors play "a central role."

This stems from the fact that directors' rights and responsibilities were recently substantially curbed. The principle of one-man command was replaced by "collegiality," whereby even operational and purely economic management decisions were being made jointly with party organizations. Extensive powers were vested in "enterprise management councils" consisting of elected representatives of the labor collective. A discussion is now under way in the course of which one can hear voices saying that "not all important issues ought to be passed on for solution by management councils" and, in the event of differences between the administration and the council, "the last word must be left to the director."

One of the essential aspects of the reform in China is the renting of state enterprises to private individuals or groups. To date this has applied to small enterprises in services and repairs. Many of these enterprises, unprofitable before switching to the system of "responsibility for profits and losses," are now making profits.

There are heated discussions in connection with the establishment of share-capital enterprises. By way of an experiment, some plants and factories were allowed to issue shares and sell them to their workers and employees. In addition to their salaries, the owners of these shares receive profit dividends at the end of the year, while the money paid for the shares becomes an additional source of finance for the enterprise's development.

It was assumed this system would help boost workers' interest in the end results of labor and bring them closer to the position of "enterprise owners." Real life proved, however, that matters were not as simple as initially assumed.

The percentage rate of payments according to shares proved excessively high. In a number of enterprises in Shanghai, for example, "share owners" received dividends based on the year's results amounting to 30 percent of the value of the shares they bought, and in some isolated cases payments amounted to 100 percent. There are now people for whom this type of payment represents the basic source of income. The Chinese press has reported the case of one "major shareholder" who received more than 1,150 yuan in annual dividend payments, in other words an amount approximately equal to the average annual salary of workers and employees. High percentage rates have also been applied to payments made to those who have acquired bonds issued by enterprises and institutions.

These trends have provided a basis for criticism of the wasteful use made of enterprise profits and the squandering of state property. RENMIN RIBAO has admitted that the uncontrolled issue of shares and bonds in China's present conditions could "lead to the development of a usery economy."

The numerous problems which have arisen in relations between the state and enterprises have made it necessary to pass a "Law on Enterprises." A period of just over 2 years has seen the drafting and discussion of seven editions of this law. But the final text of a draft to be approved by the supreme organ of state power is still not in existence. This testifies not only to the complexity of preparatory work for such a law but also to the great importance attacked in the country to the thorough working out of such an important document.

USSR TO ASSIST PRC IN BUILDING THERMOPOWER PLANT

OW020408 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1200 GMT 30 May 87

[Text] A group of power experts, headed by (Yu Shenggao), chief engineer of the China Northeast Power Design Institute, has arrived in the USSR to codesign China's (Yimeng) Thermopower Plant. During the first stage, the power plant will have a generating capacity of 1 million kilowatts. The Soviet Union will provide China with complete sets of modern equipment, including two 50,000-kilowatt generators.

The (Yimeng) Thermopower Plant is the first of three power plants the USSR will help China build, in accordance with a Soviet-Chinese economic and technical cooperation agreement, or rebuild, industrial projects.

JAPANESE PARLIAMENTARIANS' MOSCOW VISIT REPORTED

OW211420 Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1200 GMT 20 May 87

[Text] As has been reported, a delegation of the Parliamentarians' League for Japan-USSR Friendship led by Yoshio Sakurauchi is currently visiting Moscow. The delegation met with Vorotnikov, RSFSR premier, and visited the Social Economic Problems and International Relations Institutes under the USSR Acedemy of Sciences and the television tower at the international fair.

The delegation met with Soviet Deputy Premier Kamentsev on 19 May. Friendly talks were held on the current situation and also on the prospects of Soviet-Japanese cooperation. In particular, attention was centered on the new cooperation, including the development of mutually reciprocal economic cooperation and the establishment of joint ventures. Japanese Ambassador to the USSR Katori was present at the meeting.

The delegation also held talks with Gladkiy, chairman of the USSR-Japan section of the Supreme Soviet and chairman of the State Committee for Labor and Social Problems, on 19 May. At the meeting, the host introduced the activities of the committee to the delegation members and discussion were held on expanding exchanges between the parliamentarians of the two countries. Moreover, at the meeting held at the Soviet Ministry of Fish Industry, discussions were held on the development of fishing relations between the two countries.

The delegation paid a visit to Lenin's Mausoleum and presented wreaths at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier near the Kremlin. The members of this delegation of the Parliamentarians' League for Japan-USSR Friendship will leave today for Riga City, capital of the Latvian Republic.

Demichev Receives Delegation

PM261130 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 May 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Japanese Parliamentarians Received"]

[Text] Petr Demichev, an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first vice-president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, today received a delegation of the Japanese-Soviet Friendship Association of Japan's parliament, led by its chairman Yoshio Sakurauchi.

The guests of the USSR Parliamentary Group have shared their impressions upon completion of their tour of the Land of the Soviets. They noted the huge proportions and comprehensive character of the reconstruction drive and displayed lively interest in a number of its international aspects.

Answering guests' questions, Petr Demichev dwelt on profound transformation processes taking place in Soviet society, the basic principles of deepening socialist democracy, perfecting the system of managing the national economy and foreign economic relations. The common opinion expressed was that the restructuring opens up broad possibilities for mutually beneficial cooperation between both countries.

Some topical problems on the present international situation were touched upon in the course of the conversation held in a businesslike and frank atmosphere. The guests' attention was drawn to the Soviet Union's foreign policy initiatives, prompted by the profound sense of responsibility for mankind's destinies at the nuclear age, and aimed at ensuring a durable and non-nuclear peace to all countries and peoples of the world.

The interlocutors expressed satisfaction with the positive aspects in the Soviet-Japanese relations, that have taken shape in the recent years, including invigoration of international contacts.

Taking part in the conversation were A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities and deputy chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group, T.N. Menteshashvili, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and also Y. Katori, Japanese ambassador to the Soviet Union.

Parliamentarians Depart

LD232105 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1625 GMT 23 May 87

[Text] Moscow, 23 May (TASS) -- The delegation of the Japanese-Soviet Friendship Association of the Japanese parliament, headed by its chairman Yoshio Sakurauchi, left Moscow for home today. It had been here at the invitation of the USSR parliamentary group.

GUSEV RECEIVES JAPANESE INDUSTRIALISTS

PM260913 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 May 87 Second Edition p 6

[TASS report: "Questions of Cooperation Discussed"]

[Text] On 19 May V.K. Gusev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Y. Komatsu, chairman of the board of the firm of Kobe Steel (Japan), and K. Komatsu, vice president of the firm of Nissho Ivai [name as published] (Japan).

Questions of cooperation in the sphere of the chemical industry were discussed during the talks.

JAPAN PROTESTS SOVIET TV EDITING OF KATORI REMARKS

OW220335 Tokyo KYODO in English 0329 GMT 22 May 87

[Text] Moscow, May 22 KYODO -- Japan filed a protest here with the Soviet Union Thursday concerning revisions made over Soviet television of Japanese ambassador Yasue Katori's remarks on the Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido, Japanese embassy officials said.

Takehiro Togo, minister at the embassy, lodged the protest with Lyudvig Chizhov, head of the Foreign Ministry's Pacific Countries Department.

Katori gave an address in Japanese over Soviet state-run television on April 29 to commemorate the 86th birthday of Emperor Hirohito.

In his telecast address, Katori, in referring indirectly to the Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido, said, "after 'resolving' problems which have to be negotiated between Japan and the Soviet Union following the establishment of diplomatic relations, a peace treaty should be concluded...."

But the Soviet television altered his remarks to "after 'discussing' problems..."

Chizhov told Togo that the revision was not made from a political but rather from a Russian language (linguistic) point of view, the officials said.

DPRK DISCUSSES SEOUL REUNIFICATION 'ASSERTIONS'

LD212250 Moscow TASS in English 1648 GMT 21 May 87

[Text] Pyongyang May 21 TASS -- The Seoul regime came under criticism at an extraordinary meeting of the committee of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for a Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland.

Speaking there, Chong Chun-ki, an alternate member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and a deputy premier of the DPRK Administrative Council, said South Korea representatives' assertions about the need to reunify Korea on the principles of "liberal democracy," that is the system existing in the south of the country, mean in effect Seoul's rejection of dialogue and reunification.

This is seen also from its reluctance to hold high-level military-political talks between the North and South of Korea and a meeting of their prime ministers, which has been proposed by the South Korean side itself, he added.

Such actions, Chong Chun-ki continued, add to tension in the peninsula.

He pointed to U.S. imperialists eager to see Korea split for ever as the back-stage inspirers of the anti-national approach.

He said Washington is busy prodding the Seoul regime into crushing the democratic movement in South Korea and following a policy of confrontation.

The United States, the committee said in a statement adopted at the meeting, should withdraw its troops and nuclear weapons from the Korean peninsula without delay.

The document expressed the hope that the governments, political parties and mass organizations of all countries would continue their strong support for Korean people's just struggle for dialogue, detente and their country's reunification.

The committee demanded that South Korean authorities explain their policy on the reunification issue.

DPRK OFFICIAL DISCUSSES ECONOMIC LINKS WITH USSR

SK291143 Moscow International Service in Korean 1130 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] The 21st meeting of the joint consultative committee on economic, scientific, and technological cooperation between the Soviet and Korean Governments will open in Moscow on 29 May.

(Krezhv), our station reporter, met Comrade Yi Hyo-song, adviser to the First General Bureau of the DPRK External Economic Committee in Pyongyang, and asked him to talk about the development of economic links between our two countries.

We carry a recorded interview with him:

[Begin Yi Hyo-song recording] In economic relations between our country and other countries, our party and government are primarily developing economic ties with the socialist countries. In economic relations with the socialist countries, we attach great importance to expanding and developing economic relations with the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union is our neighboring country across a river, a class brother, and close comrade-in-arms. As early as March 1949, our two countries signed the first accord on economic cooperation. During the fatherland liberation war against the invasion of the U.S. imperialists and during the postwar period of rehabilitation -- the most difficult periods -- our country received much cooperation in the economic field from the Soviet Union.

The agreement to found the consultative committee on economic, scientific, and technological cooperation was signed between the governments of Korea and the Soviet Union in October 1967. Since then, we have discussed the question of further expanding and developing the work of economic, scientific, and technological cooperation between the two countries and have signed protocols every year. The 21st meeting of the consultative committee on economic, scientific, and technological cooperation between the governments of Korea and the Soviet Union in Moscow will be held at the end of this month.

As you have just noted, economic relations between our two countries have developed onto a new higher stage with the historic visits to the Soviet Union by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song in 1984 and 1986 as occasions.

In the past, economic relations between our two countries were based on economic cooperation through trade and loans. At present, however, the work of economic cooperation is being expanded and developed in various forms and by various methods in conformity with the interests of the two peoples on the principle of mutually mobilizing potential in a correct way. I think our two countries have many conditions with which they can expand and develop economic relations in compliance with mutual interests. While further expanding and developing trade with the Soviet Union, we are making efforts to develop economic relations with it in the fields of collaboration, joint venture, the relay of [word indistinct], joint enterprise, and apparel processing, and many other fields in various forms and by various methods in conformity with the interests of the two peoples.

I do not feel any need to talk about past cooperation because everyone is well aware of it. I would like to briefly talk about recent cooperation.

In economic cooperation with the Soviet Union, we plan to widely conduct collaboration and joint ventures, first of all, in machine industry. In recent years, the output of steel products has increased in our country. Therefore, we plan to boost the production of rolling stock and shipbuilding as the output of steel products increases. We intend to further develop cooperative relations by producing not only machine tools but also heavy-duty rolling stock and various types of ships in which the Soviet Union is interested and by exporting them to the Soviet Union. We will build rolling stock plants and shipbuilding yards and increase production to export more products to the Soviet Union. This is not a simple export. We plan to build plants by the method of economic collaboration and to increase production by collaborations and joint ventures.

There is the 4 June Rolling Stock Plant in Wonsan, which is, of course, producing freight cars. We plan to reinforce equipment and expand facilities and to produce heavy-duty rolling stock meeting the requirements of the Soviet Union. This year we will produce trial products and ship approximately 30 rolling stock to the Soviet Union. If any defects are found, we will [words indistinct] and correct them, thus producing a great number of rolling stock.

There are many shipbuilding yards in Wonsan. Vessels to be shipped to the Soviet Union are built in Wonsan. We still need to reinforce facilities. Up to now, we have produced small-size vessels and have shipped them to the Soviet Union on a trial basis. We plan to build a ship repair shop in Najin. Because ships in the far eastern area of the Soviet Union come for repair, we plan to build a repair shop in a place near it.

Also, we are pushing ahead with collaboration and joint venture in the field of production of modern machine tools. We (?plan to) build a joint venture plant between the Huichon Machine Tool Plant of our country and the (Gorkiy) machine tool complex, jointly turn out products, and export them. In addition, we are trying to turn out products and export them by the method of collaboration in the field of (?processing) and [words indistinct]; for example, the joint venture enterprise between the Huichon Machine Tool Plant and the (Ivanov) machine tools complex of the Soviet Union for joint production and export. These projects in the machine industry field are being carried out now. Furthermore, we plan to further organize collaboration and joint venture in producing new mining equipment and other machines.

One large-scale project now under way is the Unpa mine. The Unpa mine is being jointly developed and has lead and zinc deposits. The agreement was signed on 26 December 1985 and blueprints are now being drawn up.

Our country has rich deposits of nepheline. The construction of a general nepheline processing plant designed to produce aluminum from nepheline is now under way with the cooperation of the Soviet Union.

We have some other projects under way. The Taedonggang dry battery plant, which is now under construction with cooperation from the Soviet Union, and [name indistinct] plant are a case in point. The latter has already begun to export its primary products to the Soviet Union. We plan to increase the sizes of these plants. That is to say, we plan to further modernize these plants to meet the present demands for goods from these plants, raise their production capacity, and improve the goods produced by these plants.

Additionally, our country is pushing ahead with cooperative work with the Soviet Union in producing and processing magnesia clinker, a mineral abundant in our country. A project of producing magnesia bricks, which are made of magnesia clinker abundant in our country, and exporting them to the Soviet Union is now under way.

An agreement on this project was also signed on 26 December 1985 and we are now drawing up blueprints. In addition, we plan to strengthen cooperation between the two countries in the field of producing clinker with magnesium powder as well. Since the demand for magnesium clinker has risen drastically in recent months, we plan to increase the export volume of this item.

We also are expanding cooperative work with the Soviet Union in the light industrial sector. [passage indistinct] Following an agreement on cooperation between the two countries in the light industrial sector, we have been faithfully implementing it. Our two countries are mutually cooperating in the fields of garment processing and footwear production. Unlike the past, our country and the Soviet Union are cooperating with each other in the field of the fisheries industry in collaboration and joint venture. The two countries signed an agreement on this only yesterday.

We are also pushing ahead with border trade with the Soviet Far East, part of the Soviet Union closest to us, in parallel with economic collaboration. We are also pressing ahead with the general work of processing lumber, not to mention the need to increase the volume of joint timber-cutting. Another project of cooperation under way between the two countries is the furniture industry.

We are pushing ahead with the work of expanding trade with the Primorskiy Kray by mobilizing potential to mutually exchange goods between the two countries. Contracts have been signed in this regard. Our country and the Soviet Primorskiy Kray plan to carry out collaboration in manufactuing effective medicines out of herbs grown in the Primorksiy Kray and our country.

In addition, we plan to strengthen cooperation with the Soviet Union in the tourism industry. As you know, we have many scenic places and resort places where people can rest and go for a change of air. If we can create such resting places within a short period of time, a larger number of people will come to rest.

A joint venture is being pushed ahead in the sector of the metallurgical industry. The two countries have discussed a project for launching a joint steel works with the capacity of 4 million tons for some time. I believe an agreement on this will be signed at the 21st [words indistinct] economic meeting.

Simply put, we are making every possible effort to expand and develop in various forms and methods economic relations and cooperation in the field of technology in parallel with the political relations between our country and the Soviet Union that are developing onto a high level with that passage of time in the interest of the peoples in the two countries.

Also, we will make every possible effort to further consolidate the friendly and cooperative relations between the Soviet Union and Korea and bring them to fuller bloom in the spirit and aspirations of the state leaders of the two countries. [end recording]

DPRK REPORT ON U.S. SR-71 'PROVOCATIVE' OVERFLIGHT

LD281733 Moscow TASS in English 1543 GMT 28 May 87

["Violation of DPRK's Airspace" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 28 TASS -- According to a report of the Korean Central News Agency, a U.S. SR-71 reconnaissance plane invaded the airspace over the the DPRK's territorial waters east of the city of Kosong.

Since the beginning of May alone, American spy planes have ten times violated the republic's airspace. This provocative flight is evidence that the United States, which declares by word of mouth its wish for a relaxation of tensions, is out to further aggravate the situation in the Korean Peninsula, is preventing the speediest attainment of Korea's peaceful reunification, the agency said.

PRAVDA CARRIES KIM IL-SONG MESSAGE OF THANKS

PM201507 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 May 87 Second Edition p 2

[Message from Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea Central Committee and DPRK president to Mikhail S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, nd Andrey A. Gromyko, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Chairman]

[Text] To Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee

Comrade Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

I express profound gratitude for the cordial and warm congratulations and wishes sent by the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on my 75th birthday and for the high assessment of and support for the great cause of our party and people.

I take this opportunity to voice confidence that the traditional relations of friendship and cooperation between the two parties, countries, and peoples of Korea and the Soviet Union will comprehensively develop and deepen in the course of the joint struggle against imperialism and for the triumph of the great cause of peace, socialism, and communism, and I wholeheartedly wish you still greater successes in work in the name of implementing the 27th CPSU Congress decisions.

Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee and president of the DPRK.

SOVIET-MONGOLIAN COOPERATION COMMISSION MEETS

PM260801 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Commission Meets"]

[Text] The 32d session of the Soviet Mongolian intergovernmental commission for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation was held in Moscow 19-22 May.

An accord was reached on the elaboration of an outline for foreign economic relations between the USSR and the Mongolian People's Republic for the next 15-20 years, to be used as a basis for the coordination of the two countries' 5-year plans for the said period. Much attention was paid to the development of new forms of cooperation between our countries.

The Soviet delegation to the 32d session of the Soviet-Mongolian intergovernmental commission was headed by V.S. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and the Mongolian delegation by B. Altangerel, member of the MPRP Central Committee Politburo and deputy chairman of the Mongolian Council of Ministers. Ts. Gurbadam, Mongolian ambassador to the USSR, participated in the commission's work.

FOREIGN MINISTRY CONDEMNS RSA MAPUTO RAIDS

PM011555 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "Statement by USSR Foreign Ministry Spokesman"]

[Text] The racist RSA regime has resorted to violence. On the night of 29 May a group of South African assault troop saboteurs infiltrated the Mozambican capital of Maputo and fired on a number of buildings in the city center. Peaceful Mozambican citizens were killed. The African National Congress of South Africa mission was also attacked.

The latest raid by the South African military is yet another crime in the chain of continuing acts of aggression by Pretoria against its neighbors, an unceremonious flouting of the norms of international law, and a violation of Mozambique's sovereignty.

The racist regime is trying to prolong its existence by relying exclusively on armed force, which is extensively used both within the country and against the Frontline States. It has once again been confirmed that South African racism, which has been condemned by the entire civilized world for its inhumanity, is a constant threat to security and peace in southern Africa.

The Soviet Union resolutely condemns the treacherous RSA attack on Mozambique and its aggressive actions against other sovereign southern African states. True to its line of supporting universal peace and the peoples' security, it resolutely demands the immediate cessation of the criminal policy of state terrorism pursued by the Pretoria authorities.

Stating its solidarity with the Frontline States and the struggle of southern Africa's peoples against the racist policy of apartheid and aggression, the Soviet Union advocates the adoption by the international community of resolute and effective measures to protect the security and sovereign rights of the peoples of southern Africa.

RSA REPORT ON MACHEL CRASH 'TENDENTIOUS'

LD211356 Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 21 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 21 TASS -- The draft of a final report unilaterally compiled by the Republic of South Africa on the disaster involving the Tu-134A plane in which president Samora Machel of Mozambique died on October 19, 1986, the analysis, conclusions and recommendations are ungrounded and tendentious. [sentence as received]

For this reason, the Soviet side decisively rejects them, said Ivan Vasin, deputy minister of civil aviation of the USSR. He addressed a press conference for Soviet and foreign newsmen here today.

The version about the crew's errors, on which the conclusion is based, is unfounded, he went on. An additional study has confirmed the conclusion drawn by the Soviet side to the effect that the aircrash of the Tu-134A plane had been the result of intentional subversive impacts on it by effective ground-based radio-technical facilities located outside Maputo Airport, which caused the plane to stray from the preset course and crash into the earth in the mountainous area in the territory of the Republic of South Africa.

The Mozambican side found a number of inaccuracies and factual mistakes and described the conclusions by the RSA report as unacceptable, Vasin said. The People's Republic of Mozambique regards the investigation carried out as unfinished and insists on carrying on the inquiry on the three-partite basis to identify the culprits in the act of sabotage involving the presidential aircraft. (?The Soviet) side supports the initiative by the Mozambican side, Vasin stressed.

IZVESTIYA SURVEYS UNITA ACTIVITIES IN ANGOLA

PM291128 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 May 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent F. Konopikhin "Letter From Angola": "The 'Black Cock' Is Losing Its Feathers"]

[Text] Luanda -- The road from Caxito to Uige at first passed beside a picturesque grove of oil palms, and then headed into the hills. On both sides the sparse acacias of the savanna and the giant baobab trees flashed past. Suddenly we saw an empty oil drum in the middle of the road ahead. My Angolan companion explained: "We could meet some UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] people ahead."

Similar oil drums, warning of danger, can be encountered on other roads, too. Certain foreign correspondents conclude on this basis that UNITA's counterrevolutionary gangs control more than half of the country. In fact, in many places UNITA supporters do not appear at all. But the forces of the Angolan people's army, FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola], are not able to exercise total control over the vast territory of a state whose area is equal to the territories of Portugal, Spain, France, and Britain put together. Now in one place, now in another, groups of bandits lay ambushes, mine the roads, and terrorize the peaceful inhabitants, taking away their crops and livestock. At the same time they avoid direct clashes with FAPLA units.

True, a few years ago UNITA conducted an offensive in many provinces of the country and its units even attacked major cities. Jonas Savimbi, the group's leader, boasted that he would enter Luanda by 1985. Only the intervention of the South African racists saved him from losing his "capital," Jamba, hidden in the thickets not far from the border with Namibia. Throughout last year FAPLA subunits have engaged in fighting to destroy the enemy's strong points and seize weapons and equipment dumps.

At present UNITA controls only the southern part of Cuando-Cubango Province, which is adjacent to Namibia, and the eastern part of Moxico Province. Counterrevolutionary detachments act as an adjunct to the three to five South African battiions which, despite the agreement with Angola, have not left its territory. In the north and east of the country the bandits operate in small groups, filtering through from neighboring Zaire.

In the initial period after gaining independence, Savimbi united under his "black cock" emblem representatives of the Ovimbundu ethnic group and the most backward elements of certain other ethnic groups. But the first military success, paradoxically, brought him political and moral failure. The population of Angola could see for themselves that power for Savimbi entails plunder, violence, and slavery.

"Tribalism dominates within the ranks of UNITA," the captured Rafael Jose explained. "People from the north, be they 'majors,' 'junior lieutenants,' or 'captains,' are firmly subordinated to the southerners. [paragraph continues]

"Discipline was maintained exclusively through terror. One UNITA commander, Tembe [name as published], once ordered a group of 'sorcerers' to be shot, although everyone knew they were people who wanted to give themselves up to the fighters of the people's army."

UNITA has degenerated into a frankly terrorist grouping which would have ceased to exist long ago without support from outside. In a recent talk with the correspondent of the Portuguese newspaper TEMPO, "brigadier" Peregrino Xindongo, one of UNITA's military leaders, was forced to admit that UNITA is not capable of securing victory.

So what do its ringleaders hope for? Basically the military, financial, and political assistance of foreign allies, first and foremost the United States and South Africa. Pretoria has now concentrated on the border with Angola some 20,000 men approximately 120 tanks and 800 armored cars, more than 350 guns, 60 missile launchers, about 90 combat aircraft, and up to 50 fire support helicopters. The United States has in effect spent more than $200 million on support for Savimbi through secret channels.

To inject "new blood" into the "black cock" which has lost some of its feathers, R. Reagan's administration intends to make use of the Kamina military base in Zaire, which is being placed at the disposal of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces. It is to serve as a supply and retraining base for Savimbi's mercenaries. The American administration's tasks with regard to Angola were spoken of by Herman Cohen, a U.S. National Security Council staffer, at a recent press conference in Brazzaville. He confirmed that the White House is preparing new, large-scale aid to UNITA to "force the Luanda government and the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] to hold talks with Savimbi."

The MPLA-Labor Party leadership rejects interference in Angola's internal affairs. The refusal of all talks with UNITA, Angolan President J.E. dos Santos stresses, "does not mean that the MPLA-Labor Party is an apologist for war." There can be no truce with the bandits who have come out against their own people. At the same time the country's leadership is continuing the amnesty policy proclaimed by the first president, A. Neto.

The people's power gives all those who have joined UNITA's ranks through being misled or who were forced to join its detachments (and these are the vast majority) the opportunity to return to a peaceful life. This policy was effective with regard to another grouping that has now disintegrated -- the FNLA [National Front for the Liberation of Angola]. More than 20,000 of its members work in Angola and more than 1,000 have taken up arms to defend their motherland. Many UNITA members, despite repressions, have also taken advantage of the amnesty and gone over to the revolution.

Some concern is aroused in the authorities by a certain passivity on the part of the peasantry in the struggle against terrorism, which is due to kinship ties, insufficient awareness, and intimidation. Indeed, the large gangs could not long hide from FAPLA if all the local inhabitants joined the struggle against them. But there has been progress here, too, recently. This is promoted by the campaign to create people's vigilance brigades in the localities, in order to organize self-defense for the settlements and help FAPLA to locate secret ammunition dumps and bases.

In the last year Angola's roads have become considerably safer. Thus on the Luanda-Malanje Highway there has not been a single attack, even on civilian cars. Many Angolans living in peaceful regions are beginning to forget about the war. Unfortunately, it is still too soon to remove all the oil drums from the roads.

NOVOSTI COMMENTS ON GORBACHEV ROMANIA VISIT

AU011330 Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 30 May 87 p 3

[Article by NOVOSTI reporter Spartak Beglov: "Gorbachev and Romania"]

[Text] If they want to characterize the significance of the visit of Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to Romania, Moscow observers call it a "stage" visit [Etappen-Besuch]. This means that the visit and the negotiations between the leading Soviet and Romanian personages were intended to coordinate the relations between the two fraternal states in line with the requirements of the current process of profound changes in the socialist countries. "Everything is being restructured. There can be no stopping," Gorbachev said on this occasion in Bucharest.

The new stage of Soviet-Romanian relations initiated with this visit expresses the mutual interest in expanding the relations and in increasing the efficiency of cooperation in economic and other fields.

Not only the material but also the political factors that have determined this interrelationship have changed. For a long time the Soviet Union has played the leading role for objective reasons. At a time when an entire family of socialist countries emerged it was only the USSR that had sufficiently developed potential to support the others.

Today the community of states has become a powerful international body. Each country follows its own practical interpretation of the theory of socialism but at the same time makes every effort to study the experiences of its friends. The full independence in determining their political course and the collective responsibility for the fate of world socialism, the comprehensive, mutual and beneficial exchange of experiences and the equal comradely cooperation are, as Mikhail Gorbachev said, the formula for the mutual relations among the members of the community -- that is, what one can call their common doctrine.

The Romanian public got the chance to hear directly from an authoritative source about the search for the best kind of development of the socialist state, as it is carried out in the Soviet Union.

Mikhail Gorbachev was very open about revealing the reasons for the recent delay in the development of socialist society, for the fact that it has not been able to use its enormous potential with all its strength. This is not only a matter of the effects of objective and very important factors, such as a continuous state of emergency -- the most destructive war in history, the mastering of its serious consequences, and at the same time coming to grips with the material burden of ensuring the safety of the entire socialist community in view of the military challenge of the United States and NATO.

It is also a question of subjective wrong calculations, a lagging dynamism in the economy and in the system of leadership relevant to the requirements of the times.

Restructuring is not the expression of someone's personal will, it is the result of the party's collective thinking. At the same time it means the most serious test for the leading party and for society as a whole.

The two leading personalities were in agreement on correcting the state of affairs in economic relations, where a certain lag can be noticed.

This applies in particular to such forms as direct relations between the branches and the enterprises. One of the main tasks of the process of integration within the socialist community is the acceleration of scientific-technological progress, particularly in the fields of microelectronics and biotechnology, and in other priority branches of scientific knowledge. The Comprehensive Program of Scientific-Technological Progress Up to the Year 2000, which has been decided by the CEMA countries, must be implemented more energetically than to date.

Recently Gorbachev called on the West to show the political will necessary to conclude a treaty on the elimination of intermediate-range missiles by the end of this year. It is time, he said, to stop the "cat-and-mouse game" in this area as well. This also applies to the extremely delayed reaction of NATO to the proposal of the Warsaw Pact countries with regard to a cosiderable reduction of conventional armaments and forces from the Atlantic to the Urals.

In Bucharest, support for the efforts of the Balkan states to make their region a zone of peace and cooperation was expressed again. By making concessions to the corresponding proposals, the USSR expresses its readiness to give the necessary guarantee for not deploying and not using nuclear and chemical armaments in this zone. The USSR is in favor of freeing the Balkan peninsula from all foreign troops and military bases.

"Disarmament and development" -- this is the comprehensive, global formula that, in the fraternal countries' opinion, sets the priorities of international political in the spirit of the new way of political thinking.

SCINTEIA CITED ON GORBACHEV ANTHOLOGY IN ROMANIAN

PM260815 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Anthology Published"]

[Text] Bucharest, 22 May -- The organ of the RCP Central Committee, the newspaper SCINTEIA, carries an article today devoted to the publication here, in Romanian, of an anthology of reports, speeches, and pronouncements by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, (1985-1986) which contain an in-depth analysis of the domestic and foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state aimed at implementation of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress.

The anthology provides Romanian readers with a new opportunity to acquaint themselves with the tasks and main spheres of activity of Soviet Communists and all the Soviet people during the new stage of socialist building in the friendly neighboring country at a time when it is preparing to mark the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, SCINTEIA writes.

In the published material an important place is devoted to the development of Soviet society's material and technical base, which are an integral part of the process of acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development. [paragraph continues]

The implementation of these tasks demands not only an acceleration of the rate of national economic development but also, and primarily, the improvement of the qualitative standard of the economy, the structural reorganization of the whole economy, and the utilization of effective forms of management and labor organization and stimulation.

The main idea expressed in the documents contained in the anthology is that the strategy of acceleration of the Soviet Union's socioeconomic development is closely tied up with the economic reforms aied at improving relations within society, firmly establishing the new forms and methods of management and the principles of social equality, and eliminating inertia, stagnation, conservatism, and everything that is hampering social progress.

The paper notes that the process of restructuring makes special demands on the party aktiv and all party cadres, orientating them toward the development of initiative and independence and stepped up activeness.

The materials included in the anthology point to the need to improve party organizations' style of work and firmly establish the spirit of initiative and responsibility among the party aktiv, party cadres, and all Communists in the cause of the implementation of the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress.

SCINTEIA writes that much space in the anthology is devoted to the main spheres of the activity of the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet state in the struggle for peace, against the threat of a nuclear war and the arms race, and for the creation of a climate of security and international cooperation.

The book contains profound thoughts, evaluations, and directives pertaining to the sphere of politics, the economy, and social life which reflect the innovative, creative approach of the CPSU to theoretical and practical tasks in socialist building and its tireless concern for enhancing the living and spiritual standards of the Soviet people and improving the position of the party and the Soviet state in respect of the main problems of the present time, the newspaper emphasizes.

PRAVDA REVIEWS CEAUSESCU ANTHOLOGY IN RUSSIAN

PM241909 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 87 Second Edition p 4

[Professor V. Vinogradov article: "Book Published. N. Ceausescu's 'Selected Works'"]

[Text] The Political Literature Publishing House has published the "Selected Works" ["Izbrannyye Proizvedeniya"] of Nicolae Ceausescu, secretary general of the RCP and president of Romania. The book includes reports, speeches, and addresses during 1982-1986.

The materials in the anthology cover a wide range of topics. The results of the path traveled by Romania over 40 years of people's power; the democratization of the social and state system; the present state of the economy and tasks for the future; the party's ideological work; the development of culture; the shaping of new person; problems of international security in the nuclear age; the struggle for peace and arms reduction; the country's defense and cooperation within the Warsaw Pact framework; foreign economic ties and Romania's involvement in CEMA; the party's leading role in the life of the country -- this is not a full list of the topics covered in the book.

The Romanian people have something to be proud of when they look back over the path traveled. The mighty potential of an economy freed from the fetters of the private-ownership system, the labor enthusiasm of people free from exploitation, and the fraternal cooperation and mutual assistance of the socialist countries have manifested themselves in these achievements. From the scientific and practical viewpoint exceptional significance has attached of the combination of the common natural laws of the development of socialism as a social system and as a world system -- laws elaborated by the entire history of socialism -- with the national features conditioned by the country's economic, political, and cultural development and by its history and traditions. The book's materials point repeatedly to the danger of underestimating and, still worse, disregarding a particular aspect of this process.

The volume emphasizes the urgent need to turn constantly to the theoretical treasures of Marxism-Leninism: "All ideological work and party studies must ensure the study of Marxist-Leninist philosophy, the basic works of Marx, Engels, and Lenin, and also modern theoretical works."

The path of building the new society is not strewn with roses, for thorns are encountered here, too. Romania's economic upsurge, which was achieved, above all, through extensive development of production, slowed down in the early eighties. The party has mounted work to overcome the difficulties caused by the world economic crisis, by the emergence of a number of contradictions in Romanian society, and by certain shortcomings in the activities of party, economic, and administrative organs in introducing new, intensive management methods.

The book under review contains interesting materials on this question. They are sharply critical of conservative forces which are holding back the switch to the new management system and clinging to the old mechanism of management and funding. "...We are, in practice, using the old mechanism in our work. We must resolutely throw it into the trash can, as the saying goes, and firmly apply the new mechanism -- self-administration and self-management." The system of funding under which negligent leaders resolve their difficulties with the help of bank credits has fallen behind the needs of the times: "The present system encourages neither production nor sales. Frankly speaking, it encourages laziness and idleness."

The question of commissioning a new economic mechanism, of scientific labor organization, and of automating production processes and introducing electronics and robots into them is posed sharply. In the new 5-year plan, which began in 1986, it is planned to ensure annual growth of 7 percent in industrial production and 5-6 percent in agricultural production and to achieve the balanced and harmonious development of all sectors of industry.

Cooperation within the CEMA framework occupies an important place in the development of the Romanian economy: the broadening of commodity exchange, the coordination of its members' national economic plans, further production specialization and collaboration, joint scientific and technical research with partners.

N. Ceausescu's reports and speeches expound the principles of worker self-administration and financial and economic self-management, which are being introduced into the economy. The author expresses the thought that the concept of the working class should now be approached on a broad plane, including in its ranks the intelligentsia, particularly the technical intelligentsia, which is "the more progressive section of the working class from a scientific and technical viewpoint."

In the materials carried in the publication the author turns repeatedly to the history of the Romanian people and their path to freedom, independence, and national unification. Here attention is drawn, above all, to Romania's participation in the concluding stage of the anti-Hitler war. In 1984 the country celebrated the 40th anniversary of the people's armed uprising of 23 August 1944, which initiated the revolution characterized as an antifascist and anti-imperialist revolution of social and national liberation. N. Ceausescu names the Soviet Army's victories among the most important factors which created favorable conditions for the uprising: "We honor and pay tribute to the Soviet Army and the Soviet servicemen who bore the brunt of the fighting against fascism and sacrificed themselves for the sake of defeating fascism."

The RCP secretary general's reports and speeches devote considerable space to international relations and the struggle for peace. Together with the other socialist community countries and individually Romania has supported the Soviet Union's historic initiatives advanced by M.S. Gorbachev with the aim of achieving disarmament. Together with the other Warsaw Pact members, Romania participated in the extension of the pact in 1985. The participants' unanimity demonstrated their profound awareness of the significance of the pact as a most important instrument for maintaining peace and security: "We are filled with firm determination under the conditions of the present international situation to unswervingly fulfill the pledges we adopted within the Warsaw Pact framework to defend our countries against imperialist aggression and to defend our countries' peaceful labor and independence," N. Ceausescu says.

The RCP secretary general's book sums up the fraternal people's achievements and reveals their plans for the future. I believe that it will be perceived with interest by the Soviet public.

EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA PROFILES ROMANIAN TRADE

PM281057 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 22, May 87 (Signed to Press 21 May 87) p 21

[Candidate of Economic Sciences M. Zhernov article under the rubric "In the Socialist Countries": "Soviet Union-Romania: Improvement of Collaboration"]

[Text] The development of mutually advantageous trade and economic ties between the Soviet Union and Romania is one of the factors assisting the solution of numerous national economic tasks by both countries.

During the last 5-year plan period (1981-1985), average annual growth rate of commodity turnover between the two countries was 8.7 percent, and volume of reciprocal trade reached R17.6 billion. The USSR's share in Romania's foreign trade increased from 17.5 percent in 1980 to 21.8 percent in 1985.

The Soviet Union's role as the most important foreign supplier of machines and equipment to Romania is growing. Forming the basis of Soviet machine and technical exports are metal-cutting machine tools, forging and pressing equipment, power industry and lifting and transportation equipment, and road-building machinery.

Traditional deliveries to the Socialist Republic of Romania include equipment for the metallurgical industry and for the underground and open-cut mining of ores, aviation equipment, and a broad range of technological equipment for the food, textile, chemical, and other sectors of industry. Deliveries of fuel and raw material commodities still hold an important place in Soviet exports.

The proportion of industrial output has also increased in Soviet imports from Romania. The greatest volume consists of machines and equipment for the oil-extracting industry, metal-cutting machine tools, agricultural equipment, and railroad rolling stock. There has been an increase in deliveries of various industrial consumer goods -- knitwear, tailored goods, footwear, furniture, and foodstuff.

Taking Pressing Tasks Into Account [subhead]

It is well known that, under the conditions of scientific and technical progress, the main reserves for further growth of reciprocal trade and for enhancing its efficiency lie in increasing deliveries of finished industrial goods, primarily machines and equipment. But the share of machines and equipment in the structure of Soviet exports to Romania fell during the last 5-year plan period from 24.1 percent in 1980 to 18.7 percent in 1985. This was accompanied by an increase in the share of fuel and raw materials.

These and other problems were taken into account during coordination of national economic plans between the USSR and Romania and drafting of the 1986-1990 long-term trade agreement. Along with envisaging an almost 70-percent growth of mutual commodity turnover during the 5-year plan period, certain measures were planned to improve the structure of Soviet exports and increase reciprocal deliveries of output of the most modern sectors of machine building that determine scientific and technical progress.

Deliveries of various types of Soviet raw materials and energy sources to the Socialist Republic of Romania will continue, including deliveries according to the agreement on Romania's participation in construction and development of relevant projects on USSR territory.

Together with other CEMA countries, Romania participated in construction of the Ust-Ilimsk Pulp Plant and the Kiyembayevskiy Mining and Enriching Combine, opening up of the Orenburg gas condensate field, and expansion of capacities for the production of ferroalloys on USSR territory. Part of the output of these projects is already being delivered to Romania. There will also be deliveries of the appropriate raw material in fulfillment of the agreement on Romania's participation in opening up the Sovetabad gas field and the recently signed agreement on construction of the Krivoy Rog Mining and Enriching Combine.

In addition, there will be an expansion of technical assistance from the Soviet Union to Romania in the creation and modernization of its industrial projects. It is expected the total volume of Soviet deliveries of complete batches of equipment and materials to Romania in 1986-1990 will exceed the previous 5-year plan period levels by 80 percent.

The USSR will provide assistance in construction and reconstruction of 28 projects in the power, chemical, and petrochemical industries, ferrous metallurgy; and the pulp and paper industry. Major construction projects include the first stage of a nuclear power station with a VVER-1000 water-cooled, water-moderated reactor; a 750-kilovolt power transmission line between the South Ukrainian AES (USSR), Isaccea (Romania), and Dobrudzha (Bulgaria); and a plant for producing synthetic rubber and polystyrene blocks.

Progress in fulfilling tasks in the current 5-year plan period can, to a certain extent, be judged by results of reciprocal deliveries in 1986. Their volume substantially increased, reaching R5.2 billion, a record for both countries. Soviet exports increased in particular.

The adoption of the Long-Term Program for the Development of Economic, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation Through the Year 2000, signed in May 1986, was an important step toward the further deepening of trade and economic cooperation between the Soviet Union and Romania. Taking into account the most topical tasks of economic building, formulated by the 27th CPSU Congress and the 13th RCP Congress, the program aims at implementing a decisive transition to intensification of mutual economic relations. It envisages broad development of production cooperation in the basic sectors of material production -- machine building and the chemical industry and the fuel and energy and agro-industrial complexes. Implementation of the document's basic provisions will make it possible to ensure significant activation of reciprocal trade in machines and technical products.

From Reciprocal Trade to Production-Sharing [subhead]

The deepening of specialization and production-sharing is meant to play a key role in the improvement of reciprocal commodity turnover. Considerable experience has already been accumulated in the development of these forms of production cooperation, both within the framework of bilateral relations and on a multilateral basis.

There are quite a few examples of successful implementation of agreements between the USSR and the Socialist Republic of Romania on specialization of production in machine-tool building, and aircraft building.

The Socialist Republic of Romania recently produced the 1,000th YAK-52 aircraft, with production organized according to Soviet technical documentation and with the help of equipment supplied by the USSR. The aircraft manufacturing plant in the city of Bacau has turned into a modern enterprise, one-half of whose output is exported. At present, and in cooperation with the Soviet side, the enterprise has put aircraft engines into production for the YAK-52 aircraft.

Measures were taken toward the end of the last 5-year plan period to further deepen cooperation in the aviation industry. Specifically, a cooperation agreement was signed for the production of helicopters for agricultural purposes. Under the agreement, the Soviet side supplies subassemblies for these helicopters and other types of aviation equipment, while Romania organizes the output of finished products to meet its own requirements and for delivery to the USSR.

At the same time, the present level of development of specialization and production-sharing on the whole is not fully in line with the potential of both sides and the tasks of the intensification of Soviet-Romanian cooperation. Specialization is insufficiently oriented toward expanding the production and increasing the reciprocal deliveries of new and competitive machines and technical equipment. Specialization agreements themselves frequently only consolidate prevailing commodity flows. By no means all agreements are fully implemented, and this testifies to the fact that the preliminary work done on them is inadequate.

The deepening of production cooperation between our countries in machine building proceeded mainly along the avenue of specialization in the manufacture of finished products, while production sharing, making it possible to take the fullest possible advantage of the international division of labor, is still not properly developed.

This is why the long-term program envisages substantial deepening of cooperation both in the traditional sectors of industry and in new types of production -- electronic industry and computers. [paragraph continues]

The pooling of efforts in the development of specialization and production sharing and the increase of reciprocal deliveries of new and updated types of output with high technical and economic specifications are distinguishing features of the new stage in cooperation. Such output ought to be competitive on the world market and must help to accelerate scientific and technical progress and to reduce the energy and materials consumption of production.

A most important role in the implementation of the long-term program has to be played by intrasectorial production sharing, including on the basis of direct ties and the creation of joint enterprises. This will make it possible to utilize significant reserves for the growth of reciprocal commodity turnover, to increase the manufacture of output needed by the national economy, and to ensure the enhanced efficiency of the entire mutual cooperation.

The swiftest translation of the long-term program's most important provisions into the language of practical measures is the main demand at the present stage of Soviet-Romanian cooperation.

PRAVDA CARRIERS CPSU GREETINGS TO JANOS KADAR

PM270743 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May Second Edition p 2

[CPSU Central Committee message to J. Kadar, MSZMP general secretary]

[Text] To Comrade Janos Kadar, general secretary of the MSZMP

Dear Comrade Janos Kadar!

On your portentous jubilee the CPSU Central Committee and all Soviet Communists send you cordial greetings and very best wishes.

Your life's career as a revolutionary and Communist are a worthy example of fidelity to Marxist-Leninist ideals, service to the cause of the working class, and lofty responsibility for your people's destiny. The formation and strengthening of socialism in Hungary, its achievements in economic and cultural development, the improvement of socialist democracy, and Hungary's prestige in the world community are indissolubly linked with your creative thinking and selfless, multifacited activity.

As head of the MSZMP for many years, you have made an invaluable contribution to the development of the socialist community and its institutions and modern forms of collaboration. You rightly enjoy great prestige in the international communist and workers movement, having won the profound respect of the world's communists with your tireless struggle to ensure unity of action and cohesion in revolutionary forces.

Communists and the entire Soviet people value you as a true friend of our country, a consistent internationalist, and an active proponent of deepening all-around cooperation between our parties and peoples. You have visited the Soviet Union many times, and each meeting with you serves to strengthen the friendship, sincerity, trust, and comradeship between Soviet and Hungarian Communists.

Reflecting the feelings of Soviet people, may we wish you, dear Comrade Kadar, good health, happiness, and new successes in your great activity for the good of peace and socialism and in the interests of the fraternal Hungarian people.

The CPSU Central Committee

SOKOLOV, KARPATI SPEAK AT HUNGARIAN MILITARY SCHOOL

PM260831 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 May 87 First Edition p 1

[TASS report: "Reliable Shield of Socialism]

[Text] Budapest, 21 May -- The official, friendly visit to Hungary by Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, USSR defense minister, is in its third day.

Today the Soviet guest visited the L. Kossuth Higher Military School in the city of Szentendre. It has served to forge Hungarian People's Army officer cadres for 20 years now. The USSR defense minister was briefed on the organization of training and educational work. He signed the honored visitors' book.

A rally devoted to the brotherhood in arms between Soviet and Hungarian servicemen took place at the college.

The rally was addressed by Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov. He spoke as follows:

Our countries are faced at the present stage with crucial tasks in domestic development and on the international scene. For the CPSU and the Soviet state the 27th congress was truly a turning point. The CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum summed up the first results of the work of implementing the congress decisions, revealed the revolutionary nature of the restructuring under way, and clearly defined its basic thrusts and specific tasks. Since the plenum restructuring has become more energetic. It is exerting an increasingly strong influence on the situation in the country. Marked changes are occurring in Soviet society. But difficulties and unresolved tasks still persist. The Central Committee and the Soviet leadership are taking every measure necessary to speed up our scientific and technical progress. We are certain that all our plans will be implemented.

Restructuring is also under way in the Soviet Armed Forces. Its essence lies in persistently enhancing the quality of combat and political training, intensifying the training process, stepping up the practical thrust of the training of the personnel of units and ships, and resolutely struggling to tighten up organization and discipline.

Hungary's close cooperation with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries, the USSR defense minister went on to say, helps to promote its ongoing progress in socioeconomic development and to strengthen its defense capability. The Hungarian People's Army mounts guard over the gains of socialism, standing shoulder to shoulder with the Armed Forces of the USSR and the other fraternal countries.

Describing the new Soviet proposals aimed at averting the nuclear threat and halting the arms race, Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov stressed that the USSR and the other socialist community countries have repeatedly warned that they will in no circumstances allow anyone to achieve military superiority over them. No one should have any illusions on this score.

Our military-political alliance -- the Warsaw Pact -- serves as a reliable shield of the gains of socialism and world peace. In today's complex international situation a high level of combat readiness on the part of the armed forces of our fraternal socialist countries is particularly important. Nothing should catch us unawares. They are doing all in their power to ensure that the peaceful labor of the Soviet and Hungarian peoples and the peoples of all the socialist community countries is reliably protected.

In his speech Colonel General F. Karpati, Hungarian defense minister, expressed his certainty that Marshal of the Soviet Union Sokolov's visit to Hungary will help strengthen internationalist friendship and cooperation between the two fraternal countries. The Soviet and Hungarian peoples are linked by close bonds of friendship, and the relations between the CPSU and the MSZMP are characterized by complete unity of views.

The Hungarian people cherish the memory of the Soviet servicemen who liberated the country from the fascist invaders. In the past, the people of our country have scored historic successes on the path of socialist building under the MSZMP'S leadership.

The ties between the Hungarian People's Army and the USSR Armed Forces are based on principles of true friendship. They form the basis of the constantly increasing level of technical equipment and combat and political training of Hungarian People's Army servicemen. Our collaboration with the Southern Group of Forces command is developing in a spirit of complete unity and mutual assistance.

The forces of imperialism are unceasing in their attempts to secure unilateral superiority. The Soviet Union pursues a consistent peace-loving policy that finds a broad response in people's hearts. The USSR's disarmament proposals indicate a new Soviet approach to questions of international security. The USSR's peace-loving course helps to increase the authority and strengthen the position of socialism on the world scene.

The Hungarian people, Colonel General F. Karpati continued, are following the changes taking place in your fraternal country with great attention and welcome the process of restructuring. Such a policy serves the interests of the Soviet people and furthers the success of progressive mankind's struggle.

The Hungarian People's Army will continue to its efforts to consolidate its combat capability and strengthen its cooperation with the armies of fraternal socialist countries.

Together with the Soviet Union, the socialist community and all progressive mankind are preparing to mark the 70th anniversary of the Great October Revolution. We are convinced that this glorious jubilee will serve to deepen our friendship and cooperation and strengthen the cohesion of all progressive forces in the world, the Hungarian defense minister stressed.

Then Hungarian Army's award-winning song and dance ensemble performed.

The USSR defense minister made a trip to Komarom Region, where he visited the Babolna agroindustrial combine, one of the largest enterprises in the sector. R. Burgert, its director general, described the activity of the enterprise, a multisectorial production unit using industrial techniques. It supplies complete units for rearing poultry and animals to the Soviet Union and other socialist countries.

In line with established tradition the Soviet visitor planted a tree in a park in Babolna.

The USSR defense minister was accompanied on his trip by Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Marshal of Aviation A.N. Yefimov, USSR deputy defense minister; and Army General V.M. Shabanov, USSR deputy defense minister.

The rally was attended by B.I. Stukalin, USSR ambassador to Hungary.

PRAVDA CITES MSZMP'S SZUROS ON FOREIGN POLICY

PM261223 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 May 87 Second Edition p 6

[Dispatch by special correspondents V. Gerasimov and Ye. Fadeyev under the rubric "For Nuclear-Free Europe": "Budapest Aspect"]

[Text] Budapest, May -- "Let Us Preserve Peace" -- millions of Hungarians have put their name to this slogan-cum-appeal which is widely known today. Lists have been passed to the United Nations. On 9 May we attended a ceremonial meeting in the republic's parliament marking the opening of a peace month. In a semicircle of seats beneath a sparkling dome we saw the faces of well-known politicians and production leaders, Heroes of Labor, and scientists, journalists and actors. Entire families were there, many with children. Everyone in Hungary seemed to be thinking about how best to conduct this month most interestingly and actively and for the greatest benefit. If it were possible to describe all the suggestions received at the All-Hungarian Peace Council....

In Debrecen there is a colorful flower festival. In the village of Zsadany children fly kites and circulate letters to schools containing an appeal for friendship among people of different countries. In a number of settlements there are exhibitions of children's drawings and political song concerts. Members of the Hungarian Communist Youth League held a relay race -- its 287-km route ran through cities and villages to the bell at Nemesmedves which 42 years ago proclaimed that the Soviet Army had liberated the last inch of Hungarian soil from the fascists. Today calls for solidarity and international cohesion among the world's peoples are being heard and the peaceful policy of the socialist community countries is upported throughout the country.

...The building of the MSZMP Central Committee is located on the Danube embankment where the severely chiseled granite monument to Marx and Engels towers up by the bridge. Opposite lie the hills of Buda and the capital's scattered districts. A peaceful landscape imbued with the play of spring light....

We were received by Matyas Szuros, secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee.

We started by discussing the history of the Hungarian people. Living at a European crossroads, they ave frequently suffered from wars and devastation. Taking historical experience into account, Hungarian Communists do everything in their power for the triump of security, friendship, and cooperation.

"The socialist community is the basis of our foreign policy, its strong rear," M. Szuros said. "Our starting point is participation in implementing the fraternal countries' concerted foreign policy. Hungary carrries out its activity in the spirit of socialist patriotism and internationalism. The socialist countries' joint actions broaden the sphere of application for Hungarian diplomatic efforts and increase the significance and enhance the prestige of our foreign policy. On behalf of the fraternal countries, for example, Hungary is now implementing the common accords adopted at last summer's Budapest conference of the Warsaw Pact states; Political Consultative Committee. The Budapest Appeal that was adopted -- a program for reducing conventional arms -- imparted great comprehensiveness to the well-known Soviet initiatives proclaimed in M.S. Gorbachev's statement of 15 January 1986. The Budapest Appeal shows the socialist countries' readiness to conclude both overall and partial agreements, to strive for verifiable [kontroliruyemyy] disarmament at various levels, and to assert confidence."

The Hungarian people, as many MSZMP Central Committee decisions state, welcome the concept of ensuring security advanced by the 27th CPSU Congress. The continuation of the arms race in the West and its spread into space could lead to its becoming uncontrollable and irreversible. Hungary wholly supports the Soviet Union's numerous peace initiatives to speedily reach accords and significant agreements and achieve European detente, as well as the CPSU policy of restructuring and renewing Soviet society.

"These constructive changes help increase socialism's magnetic force and international prestige and the effectiveness of the peace policy pursued by the socialist countries," the MSZMP Central Committee secretary continued.

Hungary strives vigorously to play its role in the international arena, representing both national interests and those of the fraternal community. The community's aim is immutable: to ensure more favorable conditions for creative labor and socialist building. But Hungary is a small country. Historically its geopolitical position is closely linked with the Danube basin and with Europe. It is a specific fact that its natural resources are not great and it is obliged to import a significant quantity of energy carriers and raw materials, and compensating for these deliveries inevitably gives rise to the need to export competitive products. Profitability of economic management can only be ensured by an appropriate volume of exports, and therefore the Hungarian economy is highly vulnerable. The country's specific nature is also manifested in its openness. While giving priority to ties with the Soviet Union, which are historically justified and have a strong principled basis, at the same time Hungary seeks broad mutually advantageous contacts with all countries in Europe and other continents. The republic is a constant initiator of the development of these contacts.

"We would like our foreign policy to help to stabilize international relations and strengthen confidence and to help the East-West dialogue," M. Szuros told us.

Here one cannot help recalling Comrade Janos Kadar's words: "We believe that small and medium-size countries can also do much to maintain the dialogue and to strengthen confidence. We advocate talks, the development of ties, and accord in all disputed international questions requiring a solution."

The steady strengthening of Hungary's international prestige is characterized by the fact that it has diplomatic relations with 130 countries. In recent years the country has concluded at interstate level 122 agreements with socialist countries, 76 with developing countries, and 65 with developed capitalist countries. Over the past 5 years the republic's official representatives have been elected to 25 leading elected posts on UN organs and specialized organizations.

...At the foot of Mount Gellert, on whose summit a bronze woman holds aloft a laurel branch of peace over Budapest, an ancient building is located beneath the crowns of lime and chestnut trees. This is the International Relations Research Institute of the Hungarian Foreign Ministry. Its director Robert Garai and 40 staffers conduct research in various avenues.

One group of specialists in international affairs deals with the socialist countries. For it is no easy task to harmoniously coordinate national interests founded on substantially different conditions. Therefore it is necessary to constantly know the state of affairs with your brother neighbors, openly share information, discuss urgent questions, and engage in making forecasts. The economic difficulties which have arisen in the CEMA countries recently give rise to the need to revise and restructure the entire system of cooperation in order to accelerate integration processes. [paragraph continues]

So far, in R. Garai's opinion, only an insignificant part of joint matters is implemented along CEMA lines. Of course, all forms of multilateral ties must be qualitatively improved and expanded.

Hungary resolutely rejects all efforts by various Western representatives aimed at undermining its relations with its allies and weakening the socialist countries' cohesion. When studying the "subtleties" of the West's foreign policy the institute's scientists also do not overlook manifestations such as the "differentiated approach." Attempts to split the alliance of the fraternal socialist states, to divide them into "good" and "bad," distorting and misrepresenting the real differences between them, and to exert economic pressure are still not abating. Various discriminatory, protectionist measures are still being taken, which harm the normalization of East-West relations and the international division of labor.

"At all the meetings and forums organized by our institute we explain that Hungary, not waiving its socialist principles, pursues an open policy and seeks to advance the Helsinki process," R. Garai said.

In the chronicle of the struggle for peace, good-neighborliness, and mutual understanding in Europe there is a milestone -- 1969. That was when the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee conference in Budapest gave the policy of detente a strong boost, which led to the signing of the Final Act 6 years later. During the years when there was another "drop in temperature" Hungary appealed to the Western partners at Helsinki to take specific steps within the framework of bilateral relations to revive and enrich the paragraphs of the Final Act. Hungary proposed imparting greater dynamism to ties among parliaments, chambers of commerce, organizations involved in environmental conservation, research institutes, and universities and getting to know each other's cultural values better. Hungary itself displayed benevolence: The visa issuing system helped to increase almost 20-fold the influx of foreign tourists compared with the sixties. Last year, for example, 16.6 million guests visited the republic, and 6.3 million of its citizens traveled abroad.

"Guided by the intention to preserve detente, Hungary endeavored even during the years of the 'cooling' of its foreign policy to promote the practice of holding regular top-level meetings," we were told at the MSZMP Central Committee. "We have taken an active part in 12 all-European conferences of specialists held since the 'peak' Helsinki meeting. We also attached great significance to the all-European cultural forum held in Budapest."

At that forum representatives of 33 European countries, as well as the United States and Canada, discussed questions connected with the exchange of spiritual values. Some 250 proposals were made. Hungarian experts are now holding further talks with partners on implementing them.

"The exchange of values of spiritual life can be an effective factor in preventing the threat of war," M. Szuros emphasized. "We want to display initiative at various levels and to have dealings with all peace champions. As stated at the 13th MSZMP Congress, Hungary wants to be a reliable ally of our allies, a real friend of our friends, a correct partner of our partners...."

In socialist countries it is not only diplomats and scientists specializing in international affairs who tackle foreign policy. It is the business of the entire people. Miklos Barabas, general secretary of the All-Hungarian Peace Council, familiarized us with Hungarian "manifestations" of this policy:

"Everyone must feel that he can make his contribution to the cause of strengthening good-neighborliness and trust among countries," he said. "And everyone must feel that there are like-minded people. Detente is reinforced by the broad movement of the masses."

The All-Hungarian Peace Council is now absorbing into the ranks of the movement's activists members of socialist labor teams -- they recently held a meeting to exchange experience of work on conducting "people's diplomacy." More attention is being devoted to young people -- the Youth Commission of Peace Champions, its associated newspaper MIRROR OF PEACE, and approximately 60 youth clubs have been set up. International Young Pioneer clubs are becoming more active. Teachers, doctors, engineers, and journalists have also formed their own associations. The Interchurch Committee of Peace Champions was set up in the country not so long ago. New winds are blowing in the sails of our movement, M. Barabas summed by the conversation.

...There is a sculpture composition in green Buda: Workers' hands carefully hold the globe. Yes, socialism and peace are indivisible! Like the other socialist countries, today people's Hungary is doing everything with hope and optimism to keep mankind's happiness firmly in its hands.

TASS NOTES HONECKER MEETING WITH HAMBURG OFFICIAL

LD012306 Moscow TASS in English 1744 GMT 1 Jun 87

[Text] Berlin June 1 TASS -- The Berlin conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member states has given a powerful impetus to the consolidation of peace and disarmament. This was stated today by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, president of the State Council of the GDR, when he was receiving Klaus von Dohnanyi, first burgomaster of Hamburg, member of the board of the Social Democratic Party of Germany.

A real chance of reaching a disarmament agreement has emerged for the first time. A key to it is the elimination of intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe. The GDR will continue to pursue a policy of peaceful coexistence with regard to West Germany, the GDR leader said. One should take into consideration the fact that these are two German states with different social systems, belonging to different military-political alliances. Erich Honecker and Klaus von Dohnanyi pointed out the importance of the joint initiative of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the Social Democratic Party of Germany on the creation of a nuclear-free corridor in Central Europe, as well as the initiative of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Social Democratic Party of Germany and the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia on the creation of a zone free from chemical weapons.

ADDITIONAL REPORTAGE ON CHIRAC USSR VISIT

Paris Interviews Chirac

LD161357 Paris Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 16 May 87

[Interview with French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac by correspondent Ralph Pinto in Moscow on 16 May -- recorded]

[Text] This morning, Jacques Chirac, on his third and last day of his official visit to the Soviet Union, had breakfast in the company of no less than 16 dissidents. No other European leader has ever received as many dissidents at the same time in the Soviet capital city. One of the 16 dissidents invited to share orange juice and croissants with the French prime minister was even released 15 days earlier than expected from the camp where he had been interned for having distributed a book banned by the USSR. So things are moving in the Soviet Union. In the special interview granted to this station, Jacques Chirac estimates that progress has been made, but that the release of dissidents is as yet insufficient in numbers. The prime minister also expresses satisfaction that there is an easier dialogue with Gorbachev than there was with his predecessors, but notes that there still is disagreement between Paris and Moscow regarding disarmament. As Jacques Chirac has just told Ralph Pinto, one of our Moscow special correspondents, they primarily discussed relations between France and the Soviet Union during these 3 days.

[Begin recording] [Chirac] I did not come to Moscow to speak mainly of disarmament. I came to Moscow to speak first of bilateral relations between France and the Soviet Union, which, for various reasons, for several years now have shown a tendency to worsen. I do not find this a normal situation, either on an economic, cultural, or indeed a political plane; and during the lengthy talks I had with Mr Gorbachev, I could discuss these matters and start, I hope, the process of reestablishing our relations on normal bases, that is, oriented toward development, particularly in the economic and trade sectors.

Disarmament was discussed, naturally, and I emphasized the fact that to me disarmament was not an end in itself, that the end was security, the improvement of security, and that disarmament should be a means to consolidate security; that, geographically speaking, we are a small Europe, with nuclear warheads to protect us, it is true, within a deterrent policy, but positioned between two big superpowers -- the United States and the Soviet Union -- each possessing 10,000 warheads as against the, say, 100 in Europe and that, consequently, the top priority regarding disarmament seemed to me to be the disarmament of the big central systems. This being well understood, we do not question the suppression of the medium-range missiles recently deployed in Europe; we are willing to discuss the other fields, provided that, as far as France was concerned of course, our own nuclear deterrent force is not in any way under question because, in our view, it is not negotiable, as you know.

[Pinto] Mr Prime Minister, do you perceive the notions of disarmament and security as a European, thinking of the British and the Germans, more than as a Frenchman?

[Chirac] No, I think we must think about it in this dual context. As French people, we are not concerned by the current talks. We have our own deterrent force. It is not negotiable. We are modernizing it. It is what it is; it ensures us a sound security. It is not disputed in our country. But we are also Europeans, and Europe's security concerns France directly. In that capacity we are consulted -- it is natural. We want useful consultations with our European neighbors. It is a legitimate wish and it is in this particular context that we are putting forward our point of view.

[Pinto] Mr Gorbachev is in his fifties. Can people of this generation, like you and him, find it easier to talk to each other, to meet, and in case they do not agree, to try and understand each other's viewpoint?

[Chirac] As regards Mr Gorbachev, and also as regards Mr Ryzhkov -- that is, the new generation currently in power in the Soviet Union -- it is clearly a very different one compared with the previous generation. The wooden tongue, if I may say so, has disappeared. There is a dialogue which I would not call easy [facile] because each stands firm on his positions, but easy [aise] insofar as it is open [franc], direct, or is expressed through interruptions, immediate reactions from one side or the other; it is a dialogue which, from this point of view is a positive and, I would say, almost, I would say, [repeats himself] a pleasant one. Therefore, one has before oneself in Mr Gorbachev an interlocutor whom one feels one can convince, and about whom one feels that one may be convinced. This is so.

[Pinto] When going to Moscow, Mr Prime Minister, one cannot refrain from thinking of and meeting with those who wage a struggle in support of the freedom to think, to travel, and to do, to some extent, what they would like to do here and elsewhere. Will you be influenced by [your meeting with] Sakharov, by what you told Gorbachev regarding human rights, etcetera? Will you continue to follow this up from Paris regarding Gorbachev or others?

[Chirac] I was able to meet Sakharov. I was able to meet several refuseniks, dissidents. This is a relatively new element, one must stress this. There was no question of that several years ago. I pointed out emphatically, of course, to the Soviet authorities the importance attached by the West to respect for human rights and the rights of peoples to decide their own fate and the respect of the dignity of people oppressed through poverty. Regarding human rights, this embraced all the problems faced by the Jews, particularly their being prevented from emigrating as they wish; this is not supportable or acceptable. I stressed this very clearly. It is equally the problem of the prisoners of conscience, as they are called here, in fact political prisoners whose release -- which is in fact taking place today but to quite an insufficient extent given the magnitude of the problem. [sentence as heard] The right of the people to decide for themselves is naturally the issue of Afghanistan and I spoke at length about this; there is also the problem of Cambodia, even if it is not the Soviet Union which is directly concerned here; two or three others [as heard] and then, there is the problem of the dignity of peoples being subjected to poverty, the problem of the developing countries, which I discussed at length with Mr Gorbachev by indicating to him that this was, in my view, a major political and moral requirement [exigence] which, by overcoming ideological differences, would enable all the industrialized countries, be they Eastern or Western, to join their efforts to find solutions to growing poverty, growing debt, and the instability of raw material prices affecting the developing countries. [end recording]

That was Jacques Chirac just before his return from Moscow to France. This was a special interview granted to Ralph Pinto from Paris radio.

Chirac Interview

PM261511 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 27 May 87 p 15

[Interview with French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac by own correspondent Aleksandr Sabov under the rubric "LITERATURNAYA GAZETA Interview": "French Prime Minister: We Are Following Events in the USSR With Interest" -- date and place not given]

[Text] During the recent official visit to the USSR by French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac, LITERATURNAYA GAZETA correspondent Aleksandr Sabov asked the eminent guest to answer a number of questions. We publish below the interview which Jacques Chirac gave specially for LITERATURNAYA GAZETA.

[Sabov] It would be interesting to know your assessment of the Soviet-French talks that have just been held. What hopes did you bring to Moscow and what impressions are you taking back? How will your visit affect the further state of political relations between our countries? Are you satisfied with our business cooperation and how do you view the prospects in the sphere of economic and cultural contacts and cultural exchanges?

[Chirac] I am very glad to discuss the visit which I have just made to your country at the invitation of the Soviet Government, and I thank you for giving me the opportunity to address the readers of LITERATURNAYA GAZETA.

My visit to Moscow had several aims.

First and foremost, I wanted to get better acquainted with the new Soviet leadership -- both the people themselves and their ideas. In this respect, I found particularly interesting the serious talks which I had with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers. No society is fixed or frozen, all countries have to adapt to the evolution of the modern world. French are following with interest and sympathy the policy of renewal of being implemented in your country and are confident that it could have positive consequences not only for Franco-Soviet relations, but for international relations as a whole.

Furthermore, now that the debates over different ideas and cultural life in the Soviet Union have been stepped up, I wanted to meet with representatives of the cultural world -- writers, artists, sociologists, musicians, and figures from the theater.... I am very glad that I was able to talk with some of them.

I should also deal with the activation of our bilateral relations, which today are not what they should be. We state this with regret since, following the political tradition bequeathed by General de Gaulle, we highly value these relations. In political terms we were laboring under some misunderstandings, which, I think, have been made which should help to rectify our trade, reduce the imbalance that had emerged to France's disadvantage, and expand our cooperation. It is a question of signing a financial protocol, accelerating talks on a number of commercial contracts, and pledging to come thorugh with orders for major contacts worth Fr 2 billion in the very near future. Furthermore, French firms are interested in the new types of cooperation proposed by the Soviet Union, particularly in the form of joint enterprises. I have invited V.M. Kamentsev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to visit France to discuss this question. [paragraph continues]

On the cultural level, I am particularly pleased that we agreed to promote the development of cooperation as well as free and normal access to information and to cultural and other events, particularly those organized by one of our two countries on the other's territory. You are also aware of the importance we attach to scientific exchanges. Incidentally, during my stay in Moscow I considered it necessary to address your Academy of Sciences and meet with its president Mr Marchuk, who, I hope, will be able to visit France in the very near future. Our cooperation in certain spheres -- the space research sphere, for instance -- is already very active. We are prepared to do more, particularly with regard to environmental protection, the struggle against new diseases, and the use of new energy sources.

Finally, my visit was aimed at examining important international questions, such as security and disarmament, tension and conflicts in various parts of the world, the problems of the developing countries, and confidence-building measures on our continent. We noted a rapproachement of our viewpoints on certain questions. Wherever differences still remain between us, we unanimously stated, as Mr Gorbachev said, that our talks gave each of us food for thought.

[Sabov] If you share the Soviet Union's viewpoint on the need for new political thinking in the modern age, what real steps is France prepared to take to support a dialogue based on new assessments of the European and world situation, first and foremost in the sphere of disarmament, confidence-building, and guaranteeing peace?

[Chirac] Strengthening confidence, security, and, consequently, peace and overcoming the division of our continent are undoubtedly the main task. I am convinced that universal respect in the world for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of movement for everyone, and respect for the independence and sovereignty of states and for the right of peoples to decide their own destiny would be largely promoted by the eradication of the mistrust which continues to be seen in East-West relations. Over the last few months, your country has released a number of prisoners of conscience, settled humanitarian issues linked with several lives, and issued permission to emigrate. To strengthen confidence it is very important that this process should be continued.

We greeted the Soviet Union's statement that it was prepared to withdraw its troops from Afghanistan with equally great interest. The speedy and effective return home of Soviet troops, which would allow the Afghan people to freely determine their own destiny, would change the atmosphere in international relations very greatly.

We also think that disarmament could strengthen security if the process were approached globally in a way that ensured equilibrium of arms at lower levels than at present. The elimination of the superweapons, which now typify Soviet and U.S. strategic arsenals, is of paramount importance. That is why we particularly welcomed the aim put forward at Reykjavik of reducing those arsenals by 50 percent. We equally advocate the conclusion of an agreement on intermediate-range nuclear forces -- a global and verifiable agreement which could not be circumvented.

If we do express concern, it is because, in our opinion, certain nuclear disarmament proposals do not take certain conditions into account. Thus, for instance, nuclear disarmament in Europe must not be viewed independently of nuclear disarmament on a global scale. Our continent's security will by no means be strengthened if West Europe is stripped of nuclear means while the USSR and the United States retain their arsenals in full. When we are told that it is necessary to "rid Europe of nuclear weapons," we reply that the real problem is to rid the world of superweapons.

[Sabov] There have recently been several incidents that have cast a pall over the state of Soviet-French relations. [paragraph continues]

They include the recent arrest of Soviet citizen Lyudmila Varygina (Verdier) on suspicion of espionage, although no convincing evidence has yet been officially brought against her. We are aware of your reply to an IZVESTIYA correspondent that determining the truth is a matter for the competent French organs. However, the most competent of those organs is the government itself. How does it assess these unfriendly steps and the fact that unfriendly campaigns in certain organs of the French press are being conducted almost constantly and are particularly intensified when Soviet peace initiatives are put forward?

[Chirac] Let us not mix matters that have nothing to do with each other. The French legal system, as you are aware, is currently examining the question of Mrs Varygina within the framework of a case that also concerns other individuals. Mrs Varygina herself is at liberty -- she can move around and meet with anyone she likes. The only thing asked of her at present and during the investigation of the case is not to leave French territory. If the legal system concludes that no charges can be made against her, Mrs Varygina will once again have complete freedom of movement.

The government has no right to interfere in the workings of the legal system. The legal system in France is independent. That is a fundamental principle of our legislation.

As for the initiatives that the USSR may make in the disarmament sphere or other spheres, assuming that they systematically provoke some kind of unfriendly campaign against your country would mean completely ignoring the freedom of speech that exists in France. You know that these initiatives -- and this is a truth that should bring you complete satisfaction -- always focus our attention on you. You also know that the French people remember the historical past -- particularly our joint struggle against Nazism -- too well not to have feelings of friendship and respect for the peoples of the Soviet Union.

Moscow Berates French Policy

LD200026 Moscow in English to Africa 2000 GMT 18 May 87

[Text] Our commentator Vladimir Petrov writes the following on the Soviet-French talks in Moscow:

As I was looking through the foreign response to these talks my attention was caught by a headline of the report from Moscow by the French news agency: Frankness on the agenda. Indeed, the talks, covering many international problems, were frank to the utmost. But being an African service commentator, I would like to project this frankness on African issues, too.

Prime Minister Jacques Chirac declared that all over the world, France intended to help maintain or restore peace. But what about Chad? How does this assurance tally with the policy France is pursuing toward that country? Does the flow of arms to Chad and the French paratroops stationed there help to restore peace in that country? The interference in the domestic affairs of Chad is supposedly dictated by a concern for the good of the Chadians, but it is rather the [word indistinct] of the situation when the people of Chad have failed to live in peace for decades now.

Another issue the French prime minister touched on deals with respect for the independence and sovereignty of nations and for the right of nations to self-determination. On this point, too, a frank conversation would determine a divergence of words and acts. Aren't the French military bases scattered over many African countries a menace to such sovereignty?

Despite, Gabon, Djibouti, and Cote d'Ivoire [Ivory Coast] a total of more than 8,000 soldiers. I recall, writes Vladimir Petrov, that since the early (?1950's) under various governments, French troops have invaded African countries or interfered crudely in their affairs on 14 occasions.

And that about the French policy in southern Africa? The Pretoria regime is still making arms under French licenses and the arms are used not only for harassment and oppression within the Republic of South Africa but also against the neighboring Frontline States. There was a recent report that the Republic of South Africa was granted the right to sue a French spy satellite to glean information about African countries. The general secretary of the French Communist Party, George Marchais, has asked the president of the country, Francois Mitterrand, to provide irrefutable proof that French arms will never be shipped to South Africa. Georges Marchais demanded this in view of a U.S. State Department report about arms supplies to South Africa. This confidential American document, which leaked into the press, said the French Communist Party leader, claims that some West European nations, including France, are ceaselessly exporting arms to the apartheid regime, contrary to the United Nations embargo on such supplies. The deliveries include French Navy armored personnel carriers and warplanes.

I have spoken with you today in the language of frankness, said the French prime minister on his visit here. We, too, have been quite frank.

Post-Visit Relations With France

PM281521 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 20 May 87 p 3

[Article by SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA international observer G. Dadyants: "Moving From Word to Deed"]

[Text] To what degree did French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac's visit to Moscow help strengthen peace and security in Europe and beyond and also develop bilateral Soviet-French links?

In conversation with Jacques Chirac, M.S. Gorbachev stressed that the USSR and France bear their share of responsibility at the present crucial stage in international development and can do much that is positive. But as yet chronic complexes and stereotypes of thinking prevent this.

It is no secret that current relations between the USSR and France are not what they were in the very recent past and are not what they should be. Their level, the French prime minister stated at his news conference, accords with neither our wishes nor the level given to them by General de Gaulle in his time.

But it is not enough to state this fact. The roots of the deterioration in relations must be revealed in order to put them on an even keel more quickly and successfully.

The Soviet position regarding France is very well known. It is free from any kind of prejudice and is not governed by short-term considerations.

The reasons for the deterioration in Soviet-French relations should be sought not in Moscow but in Paris. It is precisely Paris which has turned from the trail once blazed by Gen de Gaulle.

Let us take the foremost problem of our time -- that of a nuclear-free peace in a nuclear-free Europe. France is against a nuclear-free Europe. While verbally advocating disarmament, in reality French politicians are traveling the road of increasing nuclear weapons -- precisely when the USSR and the United States are agreeing to reduce them.

French political figures speak of their friendly feelings. But in reality one anti-Soviet campaign follows another in France. The French prime minister found time to have breakfast with so-called Soviet "dissidents" but did not find time to receive Lyudmila Varygina's relatives, who traveled to Moscow from Yaroslavl.

No one, by the way, has given French politicians a monopoly on the right to decide where human rights begin and where they end. In this regard, let us note that all the talk of "camps and prisons" in which Soviet "political prisoners" are allegedly languishing not only contradicts the truth, but represents interference in the Soviet Union's internal affairs.

In Paris they often speak of the difficulties that have arisen recently in Soviet-French economic and trade links -- of the reduction in the volume of mutual trade, and the imbalance in trade exchanges which has arisen. But they are still not removing various hindrances and limitations on Soviet exports to France and on the Soviet Union's purchase of French equipment.

Of course, Jacques Chirac's talks in Moscow were useful. They were conducted in a spirit of frankness [otkrovennost] and helped to clarify the sides' positions on a number of issues. But, above all, political will is needed not only on the Soviet side but on the French side in order to return relations to the rails of mutual understanding, respect, and mutually advantageous cooperation.

In Jacques Chirac's opinion, everything must contribute to making dialogue between two countries which, throughout their history, have mutually enriched each other through their natural differences. In the economic field something has been done for this in Moscow. In particular, a protocol was signed on the general conditions of credit financing for deliveries of equipment from France to the USSR for the period 1987 through 1990.

The restructuring going on in the Soviet Union, which the French prime minister called a "striking, impressive phenomenon," is seen as the end of the century's most important event. The deep and essentially revolutionary processes being implemented in all spheres of Soviet society's life open up new opportunities for strengthening mutual understanding and trust and for more active collaboration between the USSR and France.

Let us see what conclusions are reached at the routine general assembly of the Franco-Soviet Chamber of Commerce, which opened yesterday in Moscow. Soviet-French cooperation, being a mutual matter, depends to a considerable degree how far the French Government's statements regarding its desire to open a "new page" in links between our states are bolstered by concrete deeds.

FALIN EXPECTS LENIENCY TOWARD AVIATOR RUST

LD311348 Hamburg DPA in German 1310 GMT 31 May 87

[Text] Hamburg (DPA) -- Mathias Rust, the young aviator from Hamburg who caused a world-wide sensation when he landed his light aircraft in Moscow's Red Square, can apparently count on leniency from the Soviet authorities.

The former Soviet ambassador to Bonn and current editor-in-chief of the Soviet news agency NOVOSTI, Valentin Falin, said in an interview with the HAMBURGER MORGEN POST (Monday edition) that he assumed "that the young man will soon see his parents and friends again." Negative effects on German-Soviet relations as a result of the incident need not be feared.

Asked by the paper what Soviet authorities would do with Rust next, Falin said: For one thing, he will be thanked for drawing our attention to these gaps (in the antiaircraft system). It is possible that he will be sent for trial: That would be normal in a case like this. But I assume that the young man will soon see his parents and friends again."

In overflying the Soviet border and during the flight to Moscow, the aviator had been observed by Soviet radar control. "But it was assumed that it was a Soviet aircraft and there was no attempt to identify it," Falin said, according to the paper.

The incident showed "how inadequate the systems that had been set up to maintain control over the airspace are." The leadership in Moscow had drawn "hard conclusions" from the incident; the sacking of Defense Minister Sokolov and chief of antiaircraft defense troops Koldunov. Falin explained: "Imagine if it had not been a light aircraft, but something else."

An edited version of the interview was prereleased to DPA.

PROPOSAL FOR CONCESSION IN BALTIC DEMARCATION

PM011355 Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER in Swedish 21 May 87 p 12

[Anders Mellbourn dispatch: "Soviet Union Backs Down on Median Line"]

[Excerpts] Montevideo -- The Soviet Union is prepared to abandon its claim to more than half of the disputed area of territorial waters in the Baltic and give it to Sweden. This is the content of the message Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson received from a special Soviet emissary a week ago. The Soviet side views the new proposal as "more than a compromise."

This information about the new developments in the Baltic negotiations were given to DAGENS NYHETER in Montevideo in an interview with Soviet chief negotiator Yuriy Rybakov. He is in the Uruguayan capital at the head of the Soviet delegation at the international negotiations on the exploitation of the Antarctic's minerals.

"The proposal which Deputy Foreign Minister Nikiforov delivered to Prime Minister Carlsson is much than a compromise," Ambassador Yuriy Rybakov said. "It is a new, very serious initiative from the Soviet side. We have shown good will and now it is up to Sweden to do the same."

The chief Soviet negotiator did not reveal any details about the new proposal. But it is clear that the Soviet Union is now prepared to give up more than half of the disputed area, "the white zone," in the Baltic. The ambassador confirmed that in the past the Soviet Union had proposed that the two sides should divide the "white zone" fifty-fifty -- a proposal rejected by Sweden. Now the Soviet Union has offered Sweden more. [passage omitted]

Does the Soviet Union see the Baltic conflict as a political or a legal problem?

"Conflicts such as this one can only be resolved on the basis of international legal principles. That is why it is not a simple issue. Both sides take international law as their point of departure and both have well-founded legal arguments about which they are each convinced. We have a new Law of the Sea convention, but the two sides interpret it differently," Ambassador Rybakov said.

"That is why the Soviet Union has put forward several proposals all with the character of a compromise. But up to now these have been rejected by Sweden."

Yuriy Rybakov views the recent contacts with Sweden about the Baltic as "very serious negotiations in a friendly and businesslike spirit."

In the past, too, the Antartic negotiations have given the opportunity for contacts between the Soviet Union and Sweden over the Baltic issue, since Rybakov is dealing with both for the Soviet Union.

MALTESE PREMIER CITED ON TIES WITH WEST, USSR

PM271017 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 May 87 Morning Edition p 5

[Unattributed report under rubric "Who's Who": "Prime Minister of Malta"]

[Excerpts] The new Maltese Government has been formed. It consists of 10 leading figures of the Nationalist Party (NP), which won the parliamentary elections 9 May. Edward Fenech Adami heads the cabinet of ministers. [passage omitted]

On taking up the post of prime minister, F. Adami pointed out that Malta will not join any military alliance and will not allow its territory to be used for military purposes that would undermine its national sovereignty and security. The new government intends to activate its political and economic links with Western countries. The prime minister confirmed his country's desire to develop friendly relations with the Soviet Union on a basis of equal partnership, mutual understanding, and cooperation.

CUBAN MINISTRY ASSAILS GENERAL'S DEFECTION

PM020823 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 31 May 87 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "Announcement by the Cuban Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces"]

[Text] Havana, 30 May -- The Cuban Ministry of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR] announced that Air Force Brigade General Rafael del Pino Diaz has deserted to the United States. This announcement is carried by GRANMA.

R. del Pino Diaz deserted on a Cessna aircraft, accompanied by his wife, daughter, and two sons from a previous marriage. One of them, Ramses del Pino, a former Air Force pilot, was discharged in 1984 due to psychological problems; the other, Rafael del Pino Lopez, a minor, was taken from the home of his mother (the first wife) in her absence and without her consent.

R. del Pino Diaz took part in the fighting at the Bay of Pigs in April 1961, performed an internationalist mission in Angola, was a pilot instructor, and had been deservedly awarded military titles and distinctions.

On 27 January this year, he ceased being a combat pilot on the recommendation of a medical commission due to his deteriorating sight and being in a constant state of mental stress. He was assigned work on organizing the FAR Museum.

This base treason, the FAR announcement says, has caused rejoicing in U.S. Government circles, primarily in the Pentagon, the FBI, and the CIA which, as news agency reports from the United States note, hope to gain valuable information on Cuban defenses from the deserter.

The traitor who has joined the ranks of Cuba's enemies, the announcement says, is now consorting with mercenaries from "2506 Brigade" whom he had earlier fought, and is entering the service of an empire whose aggressive actions have caused the death of countless patriots; it was in combat against this empire that our valiant Air Force pilots and more than 150 revolutionary servicemen paid with their lives for the first defeat of imperialism in America.

Our FAR, firmly united with the people and loyal to the revolution and the motherland until the last drop of their blood, express most profound contempt for this dishonorable action and warn the imperialists that no treason can undermine the unity of our people or halt for a single second the invincible march of the revolution, the FAR announcement emphasizes in conclusion.

PRAVDA TO WASHINGTON TIMES ON CUBAN ACHIEVEMENTS

PM291529 [Editorial Report] Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 May First Edition carries on page 4 under the rubric "Different Standpoints" an 800-word article "reprinted from THE WASHINGTON TIMES with minor abridgments" by WASHINGTON TIMES observer Richard Beeston. Headlined "'Cuba's Successful Attempts To End Its Isolation,'" the Beeston article surveys Castro's efforts to "return Cuba to the ranks of Latin American countries and create a more humane reputation for his regime." Beeston states that although the Kremlin would like Castro to be more "predictable and controllable," he is "immensely valuable" to Moscow.

The article is accompanied by the following PRAVDA article by political observer Vitaliy Korionov entitled "Right Will Triumph":

"R. Beeston's article contains mainly information which cannot fail to attract the attention of those who value the peoples' aspiration for freedom and sovereignty. We realize that the United States has 'expressed concern' to a number of Latin American governments about their relations with Cuba.

"For centuries the Latin American peoples have been trying to solve problems of vital importance to them. These problems are produced first and foremost by the Latin American countries' age-old backwardness and the sway held by dollar imperialism, which views the countries south of the Rio Grande as its domain.

"Cuba was the first country to break out of this vicious circle and embark on the road of building a new life. This building started virtually from scratch and is taking place in a country just 90 miles from the U.S. coast. That is a dangerous neighborhood. Economic blockades, sabotage, plots, and armed intervention have all been used by this 'neighbor' in an effort to hamper the formation of the first socialist state in the Western Hemisphere.

"Cuba has managed to solve may complex economic, social, and political problems that still face the other countries of the continent. Naturally, the Latin Americans want to see for themselves what is happening on the Isle of Freedom. And delegations visiting Cuba do see: Yes, the country has implemented a radical agricultural reform, major state enterprises have been created in industry and agriculture, and unemployment is a thing of the past. Cuba is the leading Latin American country for educational standards and provisions of medical aid, outstripping many developed capitalist countries in terms of these indicators.

"Certain circles in Washington would very much like to prevent this truth from being known worldwide, and, to put it mildly, they distort the facts, resorting in particular to unproven allegations that Havana 'supports terrorists.' And this is stated by those who have made state terrorism a norm of their policy, who yesterday stifled freedom on Grenada, and are today targeting independent Nicaragua!

"R. Beeston is clearly scared that ideas of freedom and national independence will prevail on the Latin American continent. Many miltary dictatorships have been overthrown there. But the author of the article still deludes himself and tries to suggest to others that the liberation process under way in Latin America is the result of 'scheming' if not by Moscow then by Havana.

"It is clear from THE WASHINGTON TIMES article that attempts are made to reinforce these 'passages' with figures plucked out of thin air relating to the 'Cuban military threat' in Nicaragua, for instance. Yes, everyone knows that Cuban teachers, doctors, nurses, and a small number of military advisers are in that country at the request of its government. But this is no more than a modest expression of the Cuban people's solidarity with the Nicaraguan people, who are defending their honor and sovereignty. Cuban freedom-fighters have always had an innate spirit of internationalism. And today they are helping the working people of a number of countries to restore their economies, eliminate illiteracy, and cure children.

"Nor does Washington like Cuba's position on the issue of the Latin American states' foreign debt. It would like Latin Americans to remain in the U.S. banks' debt trap, which is exploited to safeguard U.S. interests in the Western Hemisphere. [paragraph continues]

But the Latin American peoples and governments have their own view on that score. And this view shoud be respected, attempts should not be made to tell the leaders of sovereign states in Mexico City, Brasilia, or Buenos Aires how to conduct their affairs, how to construct their foreign policy, or with whom they should meet.

"In the absence of other 'arguments,' the WASHINGTON TIMES states that Havana's actions 'wholly coincide with the aims of the new Soviet leadership.' But these aims are well known worldwide: preventing a nuclear catastrophe and safeguarding the right of all peoples to a free and independent life. Just what is so surprising in the fact that the USSR and Cuba -- as well as many dozens of states worldwide -- are struggling together to achieve these noble aims?

"Washington may feverishly hold all kinds of 'seminars' and work out plans at them for suppressing freedom in other countries. Only it would do well to remember that many peoples are already masters of their own destiny and they will not permit foreign forces to hold sway over their homeland."

FPMR LEADERS HOLD CLANDESTINE NEWS CONFERENCE

PY280255 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2030 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] In a clandestine news conference yesterday, the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR] presented a conscript who defected from the Army to join the FPMR.

Luis Varela Gonzalez, a 19-year-old conscript, said he was serving in the 19th Infantry Regiment. Varela said that neither he nor his family understands politics, but he decided to join the FPMR in view of the abuses committed by the Armed Forces against the people.

Varela is the fourth conscript who has joined the FPMR in recent times after defecting from the Armed Forces.

Three FPMR leaders who participated in the news conference noted that some opposition sectors are deceiving themselves by believing that the military government will step down before 1997.

An FPMR spokesman who claimed to be an active member of the Army said that there is uneasiness within the Armed Forces over Pinochet's perpetuation in power. He said that Armed Forces personnel are being urged to continue to support Pinochet, but the truth is that they do not participate in this government. He said that there is a shortage of staff officers in the Army because most of them are assigned to security tasks.

The FPMR leaders identified themselves as Commanders Jose Miguel, Daniel, and Luis Gonzalez.

PRAVDA CARRIES CPSU DISCUSSION ON CONSUMER GOODS

PM291557 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 May 87 Second Edition p 2

[TASS report: "An Important Social Policy Task. Conference at the CPSU Central Committee"]

[Text] On 22 May a conference was held at the CPSU Central Committee at which tasks of party, soviet, and economic organs in increasing the production of consumer goods and developing the service sphere were discussed.

Taking part in the conference were CPSU Central Committee Politburo members V.I. Vorotnikov, L.N. Zaykov, Ye.K. Ligachev, N.I. Ryzhkov, and M.S. Solomentsev; CPSU Central Committee Politburo candidate members V.I. Dolgikh, N.N. Slyunkov, and N.V. Talyzin; CPSU Central Committee Secretaries A.P. Biryukova and V.P. Nikonov; and deputy chairmen of the USSR Council of Ministers G.G. Vedernikov, L.A. Voronin, V.K. Gusev, Yu.D. Maslyukov, and I.S. Silayev.

Secretaries of union republic Communist Party Central Committees and party kraykoms and obkoms, ministers, deputy ministers, and chairmen of USSR state committees, deputy chairmen of union republic Councils of Ministers, krayispolkoms and oblispolkoms, and senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR and RSFSR Councils of Ministers, the AUCCTU, and the Komsomol Central Committee were invited to take part in the conference which was held by decision of the CPSU Central Committee. The conference was also attended by leaders of individual enterprises, and scientific research and planning and design organizations concerned with questions of the development of the production of consumer goods and the service sphere.

The conference was opened by Ye.K. Ligachev. As you know, he said, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo has recently examined the progress of the implementation of the Comprehensive Program for the Development of Consumer Goods Production and the Service Sphere. It ranks among major recent sociopolitical programs. Why is this?

First, because the ultimate aims, priorities, and specific targets of the Comprehensive Program are part and parcel of the strong social policy put forward by the 27th party congress.

Second, because the implementation of the tasks set out in the program is called upon to eliminate the growing tension between the population's effective demand and the supply of consumer goods and services. The strained situation which prevails in the balance between commodity resources and services and the money supply is curbing our economic growth, as it were, it acts as a kind of brake in the development of the national economy because, in a way, it is "blocking" the human factor, it is reducing people's interest in highly productive labor.

Distribution according to labor and a market saturated with a great variety of high-grade products and services -- these are two sides of one and the same coin.

Third, because we must not close our eyes to the fact that a poorly supplied retail market deforms the moral atmosphere and if educational and law enforcement work is slackened at the same time, it engenders all kind of abuses.

Fourth, because we must understand that the goods on offer to the people, their quality, and the standard of services for the population are, in the broad sense of the term, a kind of showcase of our way of life and determine the attractiveness of socialism.

In short, it is a matter of providing a better life for our people, opportunities for harmonious development, and incentives for creative, enterprising labor.

The Politburo is concerned at the unsatisfactory progress made in the implementation of the targets of the Comprehensive Program for the Development of Consumer Goods Production and the Service sphere and regards this as a manifestation of the underestimation by party committees, ministries, and departments of the socioeconomic significance of the problem. The necessary reorientation toward the solution of this task as a priority task has not taken place in the thinking and methods of management of many leaders and in the work of party committees and soviet and trade union organs. Deviations from the program targets set for the corresponding years of the 5-year plan and the adoption of less exacting plans are tolerated.

In this context I would like to emphasize the following point, the speaker said. The long-term nature of the Comprehensive Program does by no means signify that the fulfillment of its targets can be put off. As M.S. Gorbachev has said, we have resolutely and irreversibly rejected this kind of response to social needs which was common until quite recently. People have vital needs and these needs must now be met. There are specific tasks. They must be tackled without delay. The people and the party demand an account to this effect right now. Let there be no mistake about this.

The task of radically improving the quality and range of consumer goods, accelerating the rate at which they are updated, and increasing the production of goods corresponding to world standards is regarded as of paramount importance.

This is a cardinal question and, if you want, the battleground on which the competition between socialism and capitalism is fought. This question cannot be resolved today without recourse to science, without the efforts of the sectorial organizations responsible for the technological application of scientific achievements, especially when it comes to the so-called consumer durables. After all, the useful properties of products, their material-intensiveness, design, cost efficiency, and reliability in service, and many other features taken together comprise buyers' present demands.

Here we must not lag behind. Take for instance the production of video equipment which has undergone rapid development in the world, or the spread of the new digital sytem of sound recording -- compact discs. The latter have a low material-intensiveness and ensure a very high quality of sound reproduction which is unattainable in ordinary systems. At present, the production of video recorders in the West is running into millions while in our country it is only thousands. Meanwhile, the market is enormous.

I have cited precisely this example for yet another reason. The goods in this group -- radio and video equipment and so forth -- are not just commercial products. They are important also from the ideological viewpoint, I am referring to the satisfaction of cultural and spiritual needs.

However, to continue. The sphere of services for the population is a vast field which we have not really mastered. In broad terms, the service sphere is called upon to play an increasingly important role in the improvement of Soviet people's living standards and the elimination of negative phenomena from distribution relations. No ministry or department has the right to remain on the sidelines when it comes to tackling the arising problems in this area. But it is local economic, party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organs which have a particularly important role to play here. They are called upon to remove the departmental barriers which are hampering the improvement of the services for the population and to exercise fully the rights with which they have been invested.

It is necessary to actively restructure trade on the basis of the new economic mechanism. Public catering, especially at people's places of work and at educational establishments needs to be seriously improved. The procurement and production activity of consumer cooperatives contains great potential for augmenting commodity resources.

Another point: The news media are playing an active role in the implementation of the measures outlined by the party to enhance the well-being of the Soviet people. Many major and important problems connected with the development of goods production, the service sphere, and the work of labor collctives are currently being raised in the press, on radio, and on television.

However, we expect from the news media a more penetrating elucidation of the forms and methods of work at local level, we expect them to propagandize the socialist way of life, sensible needs, and the quest for the most effective ways of resolving the problems which concern us all.

Finally, we must bear in mind the following point. A great deal depends on the development of the situation concerning food products, industrial goods, and the service sphere. Essentially, this is one of the most sensitive indicators of restructuring, of the effectivenes of the party's socioeconomic policy. This indicator must show that things are developing in the right direction.

Let us focus our discussion today on the aim of subordinating everything required to the implementation of this important party task.

A report was delivered by A.P. Biryukova. She said:

The party Central Committee has submitted for our discussion today a question which is of paramount importance for the implementation of the course outlined by the 27th CPSU Congress and the subsequent Central Committee plenums. The acceleration of the country's development, the enhancement of the masses' labor and social activeness, and the improvement of the people's well-being raising it to a qualitatively new level are inseparably linked with the increasingly better satisfaction of the Soviet people's needs for goods and services.

This is one of the key tasks of the active social policy conducted by the party. The Comprehensive Program for the Development of Consumer Goods Production and the Service Sphere which combines the efforts of all the economic sectors in increasing the production, improving the range, and enhancing the quality of goods and services for the population is geared to the implementation of this task.

Recently the Politburo discussed the progress of the implementation of the Comprehensive Program. Its resolution stresses with utmost emphasis the extraordinary political and social importance of the unconditional implementation of the directives of the 27th CPSU Congress aimed at enhancing the people's living standards and the fulfillment of the targets of the program and the 5-year and annual plans.

Concern for man and the steady improvement of his material and cultural living standards has always been at the heart of our party's policy. Over the last three 5-year plans the production of consumer goods and the retail turnover have doubled. The consumption of fabrics, knitwear, clothes, and other light industry articles has increased substantially. Virtually every Soviet family now owns a refrigerator, a television set, and radio and many other items of household equipment. The volume of consumer services has more than trebled.

At the same time, the deceleration of our economic growth during the seventies and the principle of the allocation of only residual resources for the development of the sectors directly connected with the satisfaction of people's needs have had a negative impact on the satisfaction of the population's growing demand for goods and services.

For several 5-year plans in succession the party's objective of preferential development of the consumer goods industry was not met. Industry paid little attention to the needs of young people, the aged, children, and other sections of the population.

The structure of consumption is clearly out of step with the demands of the times. It is warped in favor of goods on which three-fourths of the family budget are expended. At the same time the share of paid services has not changed over the past 20 years and amounts to around 9 percent of citizen's total expenditure. As a result, major complexities have arisen in the satisfaction of the population's effective demand.

The causes of these phenomena have been revealed in depth in the documents of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum and M.S. Gorbachev's report to the Plenum.

The party has resolutely set course toward the radical restructuring of all work connected with the satisfaction of the constantly growing material and cultural needs of Soviet people. To this end the social thrust of the 12th 5-Year Plan has been reinforced. The plan contains augmented targets for the production of nonfood goods and the provision of paid services for the population as envisaged by the Comprehensive Program. The production of these types of goods is to be increased by 33 percent, which considerably exceeds the growth rate for industrial production as a whole. The volume of paid services is to be increased by 50 percent.

The party Central Committee and the government have adopted important resolutions for switching light industry, trade, and consumer services to full economic accountability [khozraschet] and self-financing and ensuring the additional retooling of other sectors of industry and increased production and expansion of the range of dyes, textile industry accessories, and leisure, sports, and tourist goods.

With a view to improving the administration of the entire sociocultural sphere and the management of the production of consumer goods, a USSR Council of Ministers bureau for social development has been established. [paragraph continues]

A special section on the production and marketing of consumer goods and the development of the system of paid services has been introduced for the first time in the 5-year plan and the annual plans. Regional and sectorial programs for goods and services have been elaborated in all the republics, krays, and oblasts and a number of ministries.

All this, as the report noted, is producing some results. In 1986 R1.4 billion-worth of above-plan consumer goods was produced. The increase in paid services was double the average increase achieved in the past 5-year plan. The population's consumption of material goods and services increased by a total of 5.5 percent against an average annual increase of 3.7 percent during the past 5-year plan.

Positive changes have taken place. However, the restructuring in this most important sphere of the party's social policy is getting under way extremely slowly. The main reason for this is that many party, state, and economic organs both at the center and at local level have failed to draw practical conclusions from the instructions of the 27th CPSU Congress on the need for a radical change of attitude to questions of saturating the market with high-quality goods and services.

Only one-third of the products listed in the Comprehensive Program have been produced to the prescribed standard. Eighteen ministries and departments have failed to meet the plan for the production of cultural, consumer, and household goods. The USSR Ministry of the Communications Equipment Industry, the USSR Ministry of the Radio Industry, the USSR Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems, and the USSR Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry have the biggest shortfall. The annual plan was not fulfilled by the Uzbek SSR, the Georgian SSR, and the Azerbaijan SSR, and in the Tajik SSR the volume of production has decreased.

Over the past 2 years the output of alcoholic beverages has been halved. This has contributed to the establishment of a healthy way of life and has had a beneficial effect on production and daily life in general. At the same time, general support for this party Contral Committee policy is by no means everywhere backed up with specific work to increase the production of goods and services required by the population.

The keynote speaker dwelt on light industry's tasks in increasing the production, expanding the range, and improving the quality of goods for the people. According to last year's results, the sector failed to achieve the growth rate envisaged in the 5-year plan, and matters are not much better this year. The main thing that is hampering a steady performance of the light industry is the poor utilization of the sector's reserves and potential.

Group "A" ministries have failed to tackle in earnest the tasks in the production of consumer goods. Leading cadres in a number of sectors, enterprises, and associations are still underestimating the paramount sociopolitical importance of this work. It has been noted that many major enterprises such as the Krivorozhstal, the Pavlodar Tractor Plant, the Alma-Ata Heavy Machine-building Plant, the Chirchik Transformer Plant, and others are confining their contribution to the implementation of the program to the production of the simplest household goods.

We have incurred considerable losses because most ministries and enterprises in Group "A" have failed to implement the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers directive to set up specialized enterprises, production capacities, and shops for the production of consumer goods.

Lately, the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers have adopted major measures aimed an enhancing the role of local organs in the acceleration of the socioeconomic development. Republic, kray, and oblast party and Soviet organs have been made responsible for the provision of goods and services for the people and for balancing the population's monetary incomes with expenditure.

However, instead of exercising their extensive rights and displaying initiative, leaders in many regions prefer to turn to central agencies with requests for additional commodity resources. The most effective utilization of the production potential and labor resources available in republics, krays and oblasts represents the main reserve for meeting people's needs for goods and services.

In the Belorussian and Lithuanian SSRs, in Moscow, Leningrad, Sverdlovsk, Ulyanovsk, Kharkov, Chernigov, and some other oblasts these tasks are being resolved in a party-minded fashion as a result of a profound desire to better and more fully meet people's growing needs. At the same time, local organs have not yet everywhere taken the development of the production of goods and the service sphere firmly into their hands. Inertia and foot-dragging in this matter are in evidence in the Kazakh, Uzbek, and Georgian SSRs, Chelyabinsk, Rostov, and Dnepropetrovsk Oblasts, and a number of other regions.

Local industry can do a great deal to meet the population's needs for goods. There are plenty of reserves in this sector. However, in many republics, krays, and oblasts they have still not been properly brought into play.

The party Central Committee, the report notes, is seriously concerned about the situation in trade. For a number of years the retail turnover plan has not been fulfilled. One of the factors hampering the fulfillment of the plan is the shortage of goods resources. At the same time, the shortfall is also a consequence of old, entrenched shortcomings in the work of the trade network itself.

A serious problem is the slow commodity turnover rate. Calculations have shown that the acceleration of the turnover rate by just one day would, on a countrywide scale, increase the turnover by almost R1 billion.

The wholesale component of trade needs to be substantially renewed. Its responsibility for saturating of the market with the required goods, for actively influencing industry in the interests of the consumer, and for distributing goods stocks rationally around the country must be enhanced.

Many local Soviets are doing very little to expand commission trade of nonfood goods and to increase the sales of marketable production wastes and construction materials.

Consumer cooperatives are poorly exploiting their potential for satisfying people needs.

Party and Soviet organs must sharply increase their demands on consumer cooperatives regarding the organization of trade services in rural areas.

The public catering system, and especially its urban and rural facilities of general access to the public, leave much to be desired. [paragraph continues]

It is difficult to get lunch in a city where seating in canteens at places of work and educational establishments is inadequate and where targets for the commissioning of public catering facilities are not met year after year.

The party program documents set out the task of creating, within a short period, a highly developed modern service sphere. However, many party and soviet organs at local level and leaders of ministries and departments are still underestimating the socioeconomic significance of the accelerated development of this sphere. In this context A.P. Biryukova emphasized: The time has finally come for everyone to realize the rapid development of services for the population is a vital necessity.

The main task here is to overcome the existing disproportions in meeting the needs for the various types of paid services. Today consumer, housing and municipal, and transport services account for three-fourths of the total volume of these services.

Paramount importance in this respect must be attached to the fuller satisfaction of the people's needs for services which promote their cultural and physical development and strengthen their health. The AUCCTU, the USSR State Committee for Physical Culture and Sports, and the union republic Councils of Ministers are required to raise the standard of their organizational work in the development of tourism and leisure facilities and the substantial expansion of paid sports and recreational services.

The complaints leveled by the population against the consumer services system are justified. People's needs for dry cleaning and laundering services, car repairs, and maintenance of apartments and household equipment are poorly catered. Their needs in the construction of houses, summer houses, and garages are met only 50 percent. Consumer services in rural areas are of a low standard.

Despite the fact that consumer service enterprises have been working in the new conditions of management for over a year, the introduction of economic accountability [khozraschet], the team contract, contract work, and other progressive forms of labor organization and remuneration has progressed very little.

Cooperative and individual forms of labor activity are called upon to substantially complement the state system in meeting Soviet people's requirements for goods and services. This work is only just getting off the ground but wherever cooperatives are already in operation they are undoubtedly proving useful and the population welcomes this initiative.

At the same time, it was noted, in many places there still is evidence of passiveness and even of a wait-and-see attitude. Judging by letters received at the party Central Committee and newspaper articles, citizens' initiative runs into bureaucratic obstacles, indifference on the part of officials, or unwillingness on the part of local soviets, ministries, or enterprises to accept additional responsibility. All unjustified curbs in this area must be removed.

Then the keynote speaker dwelt on the problem of the quality of goods and services. The quality of many articles is radically impaired as a result of people's irresponsible attitudes during the manufacture of these articles and this is absolutely impermissible. The introduction of the state acceptance service has shown this up quite dramatically. Ministries, departments, and local party, state, and economic organs must adopt effective measures to finally stem the flow of substandard goods with which the consumer is inundated.

Concern is being caused by the extremely slow increase in the production of goods with excellent functional and useful properties. A serious impediment here is the rigidity of the technology and organization of their production and an insufficiently receptive attitude to new and progressive ideas. Clearly, great emphasis must be placed on the introduction of flexible, easily adjustable technologies. Ministries and soviet organs at local levels must also step up their efforts in the establishment of small-scale enterprises which make it possible to respond promptly to the demands of the market and to organize the production of different articles for the population without much difficulty.

The report devoted serious attention to questions of studying and shaping the requirements and demand for goods and services. Both industry and trade must seek to produce what sells, what the people need today. To achieve this, it is necessary to accurately define the functions of industry and trade in studying, shaping, and forecasting people's needs.

A breakthrough in the implementation of the task of improving the range and accelerated scientific and technical progress. Prime responsibility for the technical standard and quality of the goods produced for the people is borne by the sectorial scientific research and design organizations. Substantial shortcomings exist in their activity which in many ways hamper the organization of the large-scale production of goods corresponding to world standards.

Key ministries and their scientific research organizations and design bureaus have failed to ensure the implementation of an integrated technical policy in the country. This has resulted in unjustified duplication in the production of household appliances which complicates the production of spare parts and repairs, makes them more expensive, and leads to substantial differences in the cost price of articles.

In this context, the report noted, it would be expedient if the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology together with interested ministries and departments carried out an expert assessment of the technical standard of the most important types of household appliances. Here it is necessary without fail to take into account the opinion of consumers which has, up to now, been largely ignored in assessing the quality of goods.

The accelerated development of the production of consumer goods and the service sphere calls for the radical modernization of the material and technical base of these national economic sectors. In the current 5-year plan 50 percent more capital investment funds than in the previous 5-year plan have been allocated for this purpose. However, they are being poorly utilized.

The retooling of goods production and trade facilities and service industries is being seriously held up by a shortage of modern technological equipment.

The work to accelerate the development of the consumer goods production and the service sphere must be spearheaded by party organizations, the secretary of the CPSU Central Committee said. Their paramount task is to provide the political, ideological, and organizational backup for the fulfillment of the resolutions and decisions adopted on these questions. It is necessary to increase the demands on ministries, departments, soviet and economic organs, and enterprise and association managers and to enhance their responsibility for the timely fulfillment of the set targets. On time and in full. The fruits of practical work are the main criterion of restructuring -- practical, rather than verbal restructuring.

In this context it must be admitted that many union republic Communist Party Central Committees, party kraykoms and obkoms, and CPSU Central Committee industrial sector departments have still not ensured the necessary monitoring of the activity of ministries and departments in the implementation of the Comprehensive Program. This is borne out by the fact that the program's targets are not being fully implemented.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary criticized a number of ministries and departments for their unsatisfactory fulfillment of the targets of the Comprehensive Program and the insufficient provision of material and technical resources for the production of goods for the population.

The report devoted much attention to questions of improving the work with cadres in the light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee January Plenum. The keynote speaker emphasized in particular that it is extremely important for every leader to master in depth the economic methods of management and the skill of working in conditions of deepening democracy.

A.P. Biryukova said in conclusion:

On the initiative and under the leadership of the party a profound restructuring of all spheres of social life -- a restructuring which is revolutionary in character -- is underway in our country. The future progress and pace of this process will largely depend on our work, on what we manage to achieve this year, the year of the 70th anniversary of Great October.

Soviet people must be able to see the results of restructuring as soon as possible, they must be able to witness the changes for the better in the social sphere, in the satisfaction of their requirements for goods and services.

Therefore, despite the difficult beginning of the year, we must prevent that plans and additional targets for the production of goods, the commodity turnover, and the provision of services for the population are not fulfilled. This would mean that our words and deeds do not tally, it would mean a failure to keep our promises to the people. The party and the CPSU Central Committee cannot allow this to happen, they have no right to let this happen.

Belorussian party organizations, aware of the acute nature of the problems under discussion, are seeking to resolve them and to improve the leadership of these processes, V.A. Lepeshkin, secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, who spoke next, said. During the elaboration of the republic's comprehensive program we sought to take maximum account of reserves and to lay the groundwork for the accelerated growth of the production of consumer goods.

However, we did not succeed in achieving an acceleration of the production growth rate. Because of uneven work, 1 in 10 enterprises failed to meet its contract commitments. These problems did not suddenly arise. The reason is that in the textile industry the production facility reserves have been exhausted. The equipment in footwear factories and sometimes in clothing factories too, as a rule, is obsolete and worn out which makes it impossible to augment output.

The stable performance of the republic's light industry is inconceivable without the accelerated retooling of enterprises, the speaker stressed.

The implementation of the Comprehensive Program is unthinkable without the radical restructuring of the thinking of economic, party, and soviet organs at local level. [paragraph continues]

In the opinion of G.V. Dzis, deputy chairman of the Ukrainian SSR Council of Ministers, it is necessary to look anew at the problems of balancing the population's monetary incomes and expenditure, the goods turnover and goods resources, the expansion of paid services, and the fulfillment of the cash plan.

Group "A" sectors, where 46 percent of the republic's working people are employed, must make a more substantial contribution. Yet more than 50 percent of consumer goods are currently produced by only 4 percent of enterprises. In this context the speaker proposed that local soviets be given the right to plan the output of nonspecialized enterprises, irrespective of under whose jurisdiction they come, in volumes of no less than their wage fund.

Many current problems of the production of nonfood goods are now new, as such. A.M.K. Brazauskas, secretary of the Lithuanian Communist Party Central Committee, drew attention to the fact that these problems exist both directly in the production sphere and in the distribution of these goods. It is high time to radically restructure the system of the organization of goods production management and to establish a market research system at union and republic level.

Yu.A. Bespalov, minister of the USSR chemical industry, reported that the utilization of chemical materials and products in consumer and processing sectors ensures the supply to the market of a great number of goods.

Despite the fact that virtually 50 percent of the ministry's production capacities are geared to the implementation of the Comprehensive Program, the minister noted, the work of the sector in supplying the national economy with individual types of chemical materials is still attracting many complaints both from consumer sectors of the national economy and the population. We are aware of this, we are not satisfied with our work and regard the targets of the Comprehensive Program as a minimum requirement.

Not all ministries are duly restructuring their work with a view to the accelerated development of goods production. D.N. Filippov, secretary of the Leningrad CPSU Obkom, corroborated this by citing the example of the Ministry of the Radio Industry, the Ministry of the Electronics Industry, and a number of other departments whose Leningrad enterprises are reducing the proportion of goods in their overall production volume for the 5-year plan as from 1990. We are also concerned at the fact, the speaker continued, that the development of goods production is being held up by the insufficient provision of enterprises with specialized equipment.

The collective of the ZIL production association has actively joined in the implementation of this vitally important social program, Ye.A. Brakov, the association's director general, said. We are planning to master the production of 17 new products this year, including some relatively complex ones, including a microwave oven and a food processor.

I.G. Dudenkov, RSFSR minister of consumer services, drew attention to the fact that there still are intolerably great differences between various parts of the republic in the standard of services provided for the population and that the great disparity in the volume of services provided in cities and in rural areas is being reduced only slowly. Many justified complaints have been received about the quality of services, the standard of the service, and the operating conditions of certain enterprises.

A radical breakthrough in the consumer goods industry is impossible without a sharp focus on science and new technologies. N.M. Pichugin, director general of the Kursk Leather Footwear Science-and-Production Association, backed up this idea with examples from the life of his enterprise.

We know what people want today is a wide selection of varied high-quality goods and, most important, goods for all sections of the population I.A. Andreyeva, secretary of the USSR Designers' Union Board and chief artistic adviser of the All-Union House of Fashions, said. To achieve this it is important to ensure that it is not rigid production facilties which sometimes remain unchanged for decades which determine clothes and footwear designs but rather that it is production which changes and improves constantly, adjusting to new models and new fashions.

In Sverdlovsk Oblast the goods production plan has been fulfilled for many years in succession. I.A. Osintsev, deputy chairman of the oblispolkom, said that he believes that this is due to the fact that virtually all the oblast's industrial enterprises, irrespective of departmental jurisdiction, are involved in the production of goods.

N.F. Popylkov, chief of the Penza Oblispolkom Public Catering Administration, criticized the USSR Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances for the slow increase in the production growth rate of trade and technological equipment, especially high-performance equipment.

L.Ye. Davletova, secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee assessed the progress of the implementation of the Comprehensive Program in the republic and noted that it is most important today to focus labor collectives' efforts on stepping up in every way the production of high-grade consumer goods.

A.A. Ribinskas, head of the state acceptance service at the Kuybyshev Ekran Association, reported that the work of the association's collective in improving the quality of television sets had been examined at the Central Committee. A resolution adopted on this issue dispersed the illusion that all was well and raised the question of the restructuring of all work. We are aware of all the shortcomings and we will take all the measures necessary to ensure that the quality of our television sets meets the exacting requirements of the consumers.

I believe I will be expressing a general opinion when I say that our discussion turned out to be useful, Ye.K. Ligachev said summarizing the results of the conference. It is necessary to continue the discussion of the problems touched upon today at local level -- at party committees, at meetings of the party and economic aktiv, at ispolkoms and sessions of local soviets, and also at meetings of ministry and department collegiums and in labor collectives, mainly in labor collectives.

The proposals submitted at the conference must be generalized and CPSU Central Committee Departments must monitor their implementation.

It is important to stimulate the interest of each individual worker and collective in the strict implementation of the targets for the production of goods and the development of the service sphere, to help eliminate bureaucratic obstacles, and to abolish obsolete regulations and absurd standards which are literally tying down enterprising workers hand and foot.

Ye.K. Ligachev's ironic comment about the content of a State Standard elaborated quite recently for the simplest of articles caused amusement among participants. He described it as a prime example of pseudoscientific bureaucratic paperwork which hinders rather than helps enterprises promptly to organize the production of what people need.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary recommended that the work of enterprises, especially laggard enterprises, be thoroughly analyzed, paying attention to every failure to meet contract commitments, trying to avoid an oversimplification of the problems and to gain a deeper understanding of the mechanism of economic incentives, and helping people promptly to react to changes in the market situation. The attention of soviets of people's deputies was drawn to this important sector of work. They are directly involved in the formulation of the plans for the production of consumer goods at enterprises, including enterprises under union jurisdiction, in the development of the network of consumer service enterprises, stores, and the public catering system, they are in charge of virtually all questions of economic life at local level. They must exercise their rights more fully with a view to saturating the market with goods in mass demand and to actively bring all local resources into play. I would like to stress once again that particular attention must be paid to the development of the service sphere because this is where the great reserves are.

It is necessary to make fuller use of such important levers for making headway as the socialist competition and the introduction of progressive experience. It is necessary to make better use of both the USSR Exhibition of National Achievements and exhibitions of national economic achievements at local level. They must truly become centers for the propaganda of everything that has proved best in the practical implementation of the Comprehensive Program for the production of goods and services.

On the eve of the conference its participants visited the USSR Exhibition of National Economic Achievements. They were able to compare their work with the work of others. It is necessary to make use of everything that is useful, to make use of the designs of new articles, of ways and methods of consumer goods production organization, and of progressive form of services which people find convenient.

The usefulness of our conference will be determined by our actions, the CPSU Central Committee secretary said in conclusion, only if, after this unionwide discussion held at the party's Central Committee, the production of high-grade consumer goods increases and the volume of services is increased and their quality is improved will we have the right to rate our work as successful.

ECONOMIST ON WAYS TO MAKE SELF-FINANCING WORK

PM290811 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 21, May 87 (Signed to Press 14 May 87) p 6

[Article by Economics Professor Yu. Borozdin under the rubric "Self-financing: Experience, Problems": "How Funds Are To Be Earned"]

[Text] The conditions of self-financing by ministries, enterprises, and associations offer considerable opportunities for the broad use of economic methods of management. It is here, however, that the main question concerning the very idea of self-financing arises: How is it to be secured?

The answer would seem to be simple: Of course, through profits earned as a result of reduced prime costs and enhanced output quality, the efficient utilization of production resources, and labor productivity growth. This approach excludes the effect of the price factor, since the theoretical view holds that an enterprise, association, or sector is not in a position to influence prices. But matters are different in practice.

First, the prevailing price levels for machine building output (and it is here that a transition to self-financing is mainly taking place now) fully guarantee the possibility of economic management under conditions of self-financing. Second, existing pricing methodology is not "independent" of the producers of output: They do have an opportunity actively and directly influence the formation of prices for the output they manufacture.

If we compare the amount of profit obtained by industry against capital investment in it, the possibilities of self-financing in this sphere of material production become obvious. Profits in 1985 reached R100.6 billion against capital investment of R65.5 billion. The corresponding figures in the machine building complex were R29.1 billion and R15.9 billion, respectively. The proportion is similar in all other sectors, except the fuel and energy complex where the total amount of profit (R16.5 billion) was substantially less than capital investment (R25.3 billion).

If we approach the evaluation of the general level of prices for industrial output from the position of self-financing, this level ought to be considered inflated (to varying degrees in different sectors or sector complexes), while the price for the output of the fuel and energy complex ought to be considered understated.

At the same time, conditions for economically unjustified growth of the prices of new output still persist. Why is this?

The point is that an overall imbalance between the physical and value elements of the social product prevails in the national economy. This imbalance is manifested in the fact that the amount of money in circulation substantially exceeds the value of the actual commodity and material resources operating within the national economy. The main cause of this, in our view, is the unsubstantiated use of credit resources, the "pumping" into circulation of credit funds which are not, as a rule, backed by the corresponding material resources. This, incidentally, was mentioned in the article "Money Circulation and Credit" (EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA Issue No 16).

The conditions of commodity deficit and manufacturers' monopoly position push enterprises in the direction of higher prices, structural changes in favor of more expensive output, the cancellation of cheaper ranges, and poor quality of output produced. Nonproductive expenditure and losses, poor standards of production organization, and technological breaches can be "covered up" by high prices.

Furthermore, the actual expenditure-based methodology of price formation "promotes" the economic interest of manufactures, giving them an opportunity to increase prices not in line with the increased benefit of output produced, but in line with the increased production costs incurred in making it.

The past experience of work by the Ministry of Instrument Making, Automation Equipment, and Control Systems and by machine building under other ministries working under conditions of self-financing shows that they are completely capable of self-financing and earning profits which they "don't know what to do with," and this without effecting any revolutionary changes in the nature of their production activity, without any sharp improvements in output quality, and without achieving high labor productivity. Indeed, why change anything if their output is in unlimited demand, if there are no other manufacturers on the domestic market, and if, finally, prices can be fixed according to the sum total of their own costs and normative profits including, if need be, a self-financing "surcharge" and even supplements for efficiency and quality?

Under present conditions, the opportunity to earn profits through the price factor could undermine the idea of genuine self-financing and turn it into a formal element of an equally formal economic accountability [khozraschet].

How is this to be avoided?

It is evidently necessary to solve the following problems. To fundamentally reorient the methodology toward a system under which prices reflect the useful effect of output rather than expenditure on its production. Then to create conditions whereby enterprises, associations, and sectors genuinely earn profits through steadily rising efficiency of economic management leading to reduced production expenditure. Finally, to ensure a real opportunity for the supply of goods to "soak up" the profits left at the disposal of production components in accordance with their effective demand.

Prices ought to reimburse manufacturers' production costs and ensure normal profits provided these cost plus normative profits do not exceed the socially necessary level set by a price based on the social usefulness of the output. This is the essence of the fundamental difference between prices reflecting the useful effect of output and the theoretical tenents and practice of expenditure-based price formation.

While demand constantly outstrips supply, the manufacturer's diktat is a usual and completely explicable phenomenon. It is impossible to eradicate it just by wishful thinking or slogans; it requires a new condition of the economy whereby the consumer's specific requirements and demands become the determining factor of manufacturers' activity.

Is it possible, under present conditions, to enhance the consumer's role in price formation and thus undermine the manufacturer's diktat? It would appear that economic prerequisites for this do not exist as yet. Unsatisfied demand determines the trend of rising general price levels, especially for new products. In our view, there are three ways to arrest this trend.

The first involves the improvement of total effective demand as a result of the implementation of radical measures to improve the financial and credit system by withdrawing from circulation all excess monetary funds, in other words, funds not backed by commodity and material resources.

The second way, in our view, lies in gradually tightening up the budget finance and credit system, with monetary funds for new construction, reconstruction, additions to internal circulating capital, and reimbursement of losses being made available only to the extent that they are backed up by commodity and material resources.

Finally, the third way consists of implementing a reform of wholesale prices coupled with a financial adjustment [ozdorovleniya] of enterprises' accounts at the date when new wholesale prices come into effect and there is a switch to wholesale trade in means of production.

It would seem that the proposed measures would help to create a new type of economic machinery whereby self-financing would be a really efficient and effective system for the work of every enterprise, association, and sector.

BRIEFS

NEW TURBINES PRODUCED -- Kharkov May 27 TASS -- The turbine manufacturing plant in Kharkov (Ukraine) has begun to turn out turbines, which will have a power of one million kilowatts and which will be fully controlled by automatic equipment, for nuclear power stations. The manufacture of the first such turbine has been completed here. Electronic equipment will rule out a possibility of erroneous action by a station's operator. It will instantly cancel a wrong command and will suggest to the operator a command which is optimal at a given moment. The new turbines are intended for both operating nuclear-power stations of the country as well as for those which are under construction. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1435 GMT 27 May 87 LD]

COMPUTER SCIENTIST OUTLINES NEW SYSTEM

LD271341 Moscow TASS in English 1221 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- A new computer system, ES-1766, whose preliminary tests have been successfully completed in the Soviet Union, will be able to solve such a prompt and complicated task as giving accurate 24-hour weather forecasts for every part of European USSR.

The system performs 100 million operations a second and ensures the work of up to 256 processors simultaneously.

Boris Yermolayev, deputy general designer of the United Computer System (ES), told a TASS correspondent that the ES-1766 system had been designed according to a macroconveyer principle protected by patents in the world's leading computer producing countries.

Yermolayev noted that in the early 1970s Soviet scientists took the programme compatibility of the IBM computer system with the United Computer System as a principle, because most of the programmes at the time were recorded according to the IBM system.

"I don't mean that we are copying the design of Western computers. The CEMA member-countries are capable of developing computers with a new logical architecture", Yermolayev went on to say. "But then how should we use the already existing programmes, over 80 percent of which are recorded according to the IBM system?"

"Computers with an architecture open to other computers enable us to save considerable means by using the already developed software, while Western countries gain access to our programmes."

Yermolayev thinks that computers which could be switched to a network of computers of various structure without special devices held out a promise for further international cooperation in computer science. Such computers are currently being designed by the CEMA countries.

"They will make it possible to create international information networks which will considerably extend computers' application sphere and the information exchange in the world".

SYRIAN PILOTS TRAIN AT SOVIET COSMONAUT CENTER

LD271025 Moscow TASS in English 0851 GMT 27 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 27 TASS -- Syrian pilots Mohammed Faris and Munir Habib descended into the hydro-laboratory, where elements of the crew's work in conditions mimicking space zero-gravity are practised, in pressure suits each weighing 220 kilograms. They are designed for training in the hydro-swimming pool of the cosmonauts' training center near Moscow.

Certainly, it is impossible to move independently in such a gear, therefore, the cosmonauts are submerged into the water, where the mission simulator of the orbital complex is installed, with the aid of the crane jib.

Training in the hydro-laboratory is stipulated by the programme of the crew's pre-launch practise sessions. To have an idea of how complex underwater training is, it will be enough to say that in one practise session a person loses up to two kilograms in weight.

For Syrian pilots Mohammed Faris and Munir Habib ground training is drawing to an end. A joint Soviet-Syrian space flight is less than two months away.

On the first international crew are Soviet cosmonauts Alexander Viktorenko, commander, Aleksandr Aleksandrov, flight engineer, and representative of Syria Mohammed Faris, cosmonaut-researcher.

On the second crew are Soviet cosmonauts Anatoliy Solovyev, commander; Viktor Savinykh, flight engineer; and Syrian pilot Munir Habib, cosmonaut-researcher.

Methodologists and specialists in the star township unanimously point out that the entire six are a friendly and cohesive team which can cope with the most difficult task. The Syrian pilots exhibited unique faculties during work at the cosmonauts' training centre named after Yuriy Gagarin near Moscow.

They spent their days-off, which were so rare, together. The trip to the ancient Russian cities of Vladimir and Suzdal, where the Syrian pilots and members of their families learnt a good deal about the history of Russia, were deeply etched in their memory.

TASS REPORTS LATEST ACTIVITIES ABOARD 'MIR' COMPLEX

LD291206 Moscow TASS in English 1131 GMT 29 May 87

[Text] Moscow May 29 TASS -- Yuriy Romanenko's and Aleksandr Laveykin's orbital flight has entered the seventeenth week.

In recent days the crew were preoccupied mainly with unloading the Progress-30 spaceship and with stowing the delivered instruments, equipment and food.

With a view to increasing the capacity of the electric power system of the orbital complex, the cosmonauts installed another storage battery in the basic module and connected it up to the general circuit.

Within the framework of the scientific programme of the flight, the crew carried out a series of medico-biological experiments.

They researched, in particular, into the oxygen conditions of human tissues in zero gravity, evaluated the condition of the visual system, and determined the parameters of gas environment in the living compartments.

Today Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin continue to reactivate and check the functioning of the scientific equipment of the astrophysical module Kvant (quantum).

According to telemetry data and reports from orbit, the flight of the Mir manned space complex is proceeding normally.

MOSCOW DETAILS DESIGN OF 'KVANT' MODULE ON 'MIR'

LD291009 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 28 May 87

[Text] And now all about a spinning top in space, the story is linked with the flight of a Soviet orbital station Mir, which has been flying around the earth for more than a year now. After the astrophysical module Kvant docked with the station, the entire orbital complex acquired a new quality. An unusual train of space vehicles is orbitting the earth -- the station itself, the science module, and two space ships. With the appearance of the Kvant module on this train, the possibilities of guiding the entire complex have expanded considerably. The way things will be done in guidance now are highlighted by USSR Academy of Sciences researcher (Yuriy Kolesov).

It is common knowledge, says (Yuriy Kolesov), that a space-craft flying in outer space does not stay motionless for a minute. Although it does orbit at altitudes of several hundred kilometers, where the atmosphere is highly rarified, still the atmosphere puts up some resistance to the craft's movement. On the other hand, the craft is also affected by the pressure of solar rays and by the gravitational anomalies of the earth. As a result of these effects, the spacecraft revolves slowly, taking diverse positions (?with) regard to the earth and the direction of the flight.

When spacemen aboard the orbital complex are asleep or resting they're not bothered by the slow revolutions, but when they conduct studies of natural resources of earth or observe celestial bodies the station must be positioned properly. For this reason the spacemen have to periodically switch on the station's small jet engines.

But is it possible to keep the station in a certain position without spending onboard fuel? Well yes it is possible. The designers of the Kvant module have tried it with an original electromechanical system which spends practically no fuel at all, but works instead on the plentiful solar energy. What sort of system is this?

It consists of six identical flywheels that are rotated by electric motors. A flywheel is a very ancient invention, since times of old such a device has been used for converting one type of mechanical motion to another type. Take for instance the motions of the feet of a potter during the rotation of his wheel. In fact today every motor vehicle has a flywheel in its engine to convert the direct linear movement of pistons into the rotating motions of the crankshaft.

The designers of the Kvant module went further with this concept of the flywheel and used it to stabilize and orient the entire orbital complex Mir. The space flywheels are suspended in a magnetic field and therefore don't waste energy for friction during their rotation in the vacuum. When the orbital complex diverts to this or that side, this deflection is momentarily registered by special centers. Instantly, the appropriate commands are fed from the electronic units of the station and the flywheels, rotating in the necessary direction, return the 50-ton space train en masse to its initial position.

The flywheel was first used in the guidance system of the Soviet orbital station Salyut-5. It was the first successful experiment the results of which were later used in the Kvant module. However, there was, as yet, no experience of guiding such a big orbital complex as the present one. That is why mission control, together with cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Aleksandr Laveykin, will have to spend much time putting the new system into operation. The flight program provides a whole month for this job. After the work is done, the orbital complex will practically need no fuel for maneuvering. This means that the economic efficiency of the crews' work in the interests of science and the national economy will increase considerably.